

All the dirt on Wartburg

Energy projects, recycling, student garden among sustainability initiatives

Rocking Europe

Choir's May Term tour

Watson's stellar season

Baseball dream takes shape



Wartburg

Fall 2011

M A G A Z I N E



Saul Shapiro

From the Editor

Orange with more than a touch of green

by Saul Shapiro

Wartburg College may have finished No. 162 (last) in the Sierra Club's 2010 "Cool Schools" environmental survey, but just its participation merited praise.

Because 80 percent of schools nationwide opted out, an Iowa environmental blog praised Wartburg as one of only two schools in the state willing to be assessed: "Grinnell and Wartburg administrators deserve credit for taking sustainability seriously on campus."

Actually, Wartburg's participation was neither heroic nor foolhardy. The questionnaire was somewhat quirky — hence the low participation rate — attempting to bridge the gap between urban (points for mass transit) and rural (score with manure power) schools.

But the college's fledgling Energy and Environmental Sustainability Initiative committee (I am a member) was merely interested in a benchmark of sorts from which to grow greener.

And Wartburg is doing just that — by leaps and bounds.

In fact, its Cool Schools standing rose by 78 places this year with a score that was 45 percent higher.

The institution drove some of those initiatives with a substantial investment in energy-savings projects, while individuals creatively inspired others. As you'll see in our package of stories on sustainability, it makes for a very formidable combination.

Elsewhere in this edition, we report on the Wartburg Choir's resoundingly successful European tour during May Term — complete with reviews that are otherworldly. Meanwhile, we also trace the journey of new music faculty member Dr. Daniel Kaplunas from Lithuania to Wartburg. Kaplunas succeeds Dr. Janice Wade as the music director and conductor of the Wartburg Community Symphony.

Continuing with the overseas theme from the last edition of the magazine, Pastor Herb Hafermann '59 is profiled after returning to Waverly from Tanzania, where he assisted with Wartburg's Study Abroad and Diers programs during his 48-year stay. We revisited the early days of the Peace Corps, which has been celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, with a story about Class of '62 graduates Rosalie Froehlich Boots and Joyce Schuett Seeger, who were among the first to volunteer.

We also have a report on the Wartburg women's basketball squad, which traveled to Germany during the summer, a trek more about team building than on-court performance, with a sidebar on their culinary preferences. (Want to win these girls' hearts? Bring ketchup!)

Back home, we caught up with Bradley Watson '11, the Iowa Conference Pitcher of the Year, who was the first Wartburg player drafted by a Major League Baseball team in 10 years. Watson responded with a sterling performance for the St. Louis Cardinals' Gulf Coast League club.

If you were listening to sports radio during June, you might have heard Mike Peasley '96 describing the exploits of the Dallas Mavericks, who became America's Team (except in Miami) by cooling off a certain Big Three for the NBA championship. Mike took time off from his chores on ESPN Radio in Dallas, covering the Texas Rangers and Dallas Cowboys, to answer some questions about the Mavs' marvelous ride.

As always, we appreciate your feedback and welcome story suggestions at saul.shapiro@wartburg.edu.

Saul Shapiro

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On the cover:

Wartburg is growing greener with initiatives from a \$2.4 million investment in energy-saving projects to a student garden.



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Features



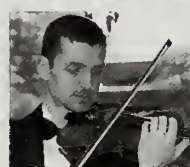
2-6 Orange with shades of green

Bottles recycled as Commencement gowns, energy-saving projects and car sharing boost sustainability



7-9 Rocking Europe

The Wartburg Choir's May Term tour elicited otherworldly critical reviews



10-11 Mapping out his career

Dr. Daniel Kaplunas came to Wartburg from Lithuania via Michigan, Texas, and Georgia.



12-13 Not the retiring type

After 48 years in Tanzania, the Rev. Herb Hafermann '59 is back in Waverly. Or is he?



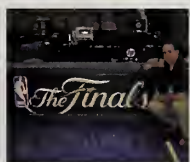
16-17 Living his dream

Drafted by the St. Louis Cardinals, pitcher Bradley Watson '11 quickly made his mark.



18-19 Building a winning rapport

The women's basketball team bonds on a German tour and makes fast breaks for fast food.



20 Banner year in Dallas

When the Mavericks beat the Heat, sportscaster Mike Peasley '96 had a front-row seat.

24-29 Knights in the News

Wartburg College is
dedicated to challenging
and nurturing students
for lives of leadership
and service as a spirited
expression of their faith and
learning.

Sustainability comes of age at Wartburg

Green becomes a complementary color and attitude to the "Be Orange" spirit

by Saul Shapiro

Bedecked in gowns that had been plastic bottles in a previous incarnation, Wartburg's 2011 graduates received their diplomas during spring Commencement ceremonies.

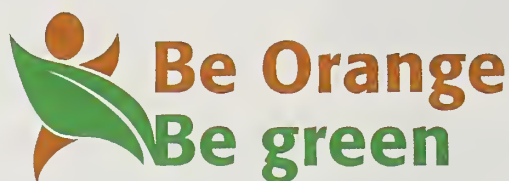
Although made from the pellets of 23 plastic bottles on average, the gowns were not discernibly different from their polyester cousins. But the symbolism loomed large, because 2011 marked the year that sustainability came of age on campus as part of a concerted institutional endeavor.

Wartburg's notable sustainability initiatives in the recent past set the stage for a larger institutional blueprint and smaller carbon footprint:

- In April 2007, Wartburg dedicated \$2 million to Waverly Light and Power's Green Power Choice Fund, ostensibly funding a wind turbine to offset the carbon footprint of the Wartburg-Waverly Sports & Wellness Center.
- During Earth Week 2008, dining services went "trayless" in the student cafeteria.
- In February 2009, the Wartburg-Luther Energy Challenge — a student-led initiative with faculty and staff support — tracked electric and natural gas consumption, comparing figures from the previous year. Luther topped Wartburg in natural gas usage, while Wartburg won in electricity reduction.
- During Earth Week 2010, Dr. Tammy Faux, assistant professor of social work, and students began a campus garden that provided 800 pounds of produce for Dining Services last year.

Sustainability took on a more intentional institutional role in 2011 as Wartburg:

- implemented a \$2 million energy-efficiency program.
- made energy savings and environmental concerns a key component in the new strategic plan.
- hired a sustainability coordinator to develop a campuswide sustainability plan.
- increased recycling efforts and tracked waste reduction.
- provided the Class of 2011 with a Commencement sustainability pledge "to take into account the social and environmental consequences of any job I consider and will try to improve these aspects of any organization for which I work."



The \$2.4 million energy-efficiency project — with implementation that began in December 2010 — punctuated the commitment to sustainability.

The project is based on an audit performed in spring 2010 by Schneider Electric, an international consulting firm. One-third of the estimated cost has been funded by a \$666,000 grant from the state Office of Energy Independence through a U.S. Department of Energy program.

"Going green" provides more benefits than just lessening the impact on the environment.

"We'll have savings of \$270,000 annually, so the payback certainly will occur in less than 10 years, which is a very good thing," said Gary Grace, vice president for administration.

"When it's completed, it will mean that we'll have increased resources in our general budget."

The Energy and Environmental Sustainability Initiative committee — created in 2009-10 to promote recycling but taking on a larger charge — generated ideas from faculty, staff and students. The catalyst for concerted action, though, was

the hiring of sustainability coordinator Anne Duncan, formerly with the Black Hawk Country Conservation Board.

"Anne Duncan can help pull together all the collective efforts we've been talking about to create more synergy and more intentionality," Grace said. "We haven't had anyone with the time and energy to do that. She can follow through on ideas; expand education for students, faculty, and staff so they understand why sustainability is valuable; and create a blueprint that makes us sustainable given the technology and resources that will be available to us in the future."

He added, "While EESI is our first proactive institutional group, students had been engaged in groups for a long time, and we have had individual initiatives," Grace said. "John Wuertz, director of the physical plant, for years has done things that were completely under the radar in terms of purchasing appropriate chemicals and renovating buildings with sustainability in mind."

Duncan immediately began work on a plan that would establish goals for the college and ways to measure success in:

- planning and development.
- purchasing.
- energy and climate.
- materials and recycling.



Wartburg has helped fund a wind turbine in Waverly (top), while student recycling efforts have gained momentum (middle), including the use of recycling bags in every residence hall room (below).



- transportation.
- water and landscape
- residential life
- sustainability in the curriculum

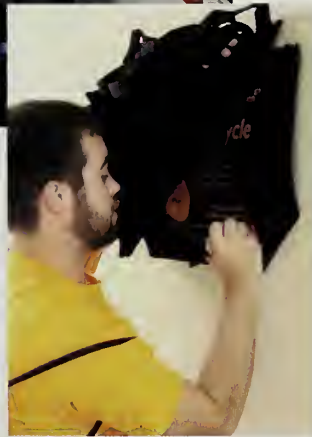
Educating the campus community about the benefits of sustainability is one of her primary endeavors.

During the summer Duncan and two students quantified recycling savings and found that Wartburg had diverted more than 121,000 pounds of paper, plastic, and tin from the landfill during the 2010-11 fiscal year — a 28 percent increase.

“To put that amount into context,” she said, “it is equivalent to the weight of our entire football team last year, including coaches, equipment and the three buses to carry them.”

No matter the plans the college puts in place, responsibility ultimately lies with individuals, Duncan said, taking the initiative “to change how they’re doing things, change how they’re plugging things in and what they’re plugging in. Put things into a power strip, then can turn the power off at the end of the day, so you won’t be using phantom power all night.

“It’s as simple as recycling paper or shutting off a light. We need to get rid of the myths like if you’re going to be out of a room for more



Graduating seniors Nathaniel Maldonado of Austin, Minn., and Megan Lovrien of Clarksville, try on the recycled GreenWear graduation gowns.

Class of '11 attire straight out of bottles at Commencement

The imagery — not the sight — could take you aback.

While their Commencement attire didn’t look like anything out of the ordinary, 359 Wartburg College seniors accepted their diplomas while wearing the latest in trendy graduation apparel: Gowns consisting of what, on average, had been 23 plastic bottles.

According to Virginia-based Oak Hall Cap & Gown, the environmentally friendly and recyclable GreenWeaver gowns made from plastic pellets have a look and feel indistinguishable from their polyester cousins.

Besides going green with recyclable gowns for the first time, Wartburg also saved money.

“The custom cap and gown package using the GreenWeaver was less expensive than we had previously been paying a different vendor,” said Wartburg Bookstore Manager Arlene Schwarzenbach. “I decided to change vendors, save money for the college and go green besides.”

Recycling boxes were provided after Commencement for students who decided not to keep the gown. Another company will recycle those gowns into a different product, Schwarzenbach said.

than five minutes, you shouldn't shut off the light. That's hogwash. Or that it's bad for your computer to turn it off and on."

Student Senate — responding to the results of a student survey — has taken the initiative to provide bags in each residence hall room to promote recycling. Large recycling containers are now available at central spots in all of the residence halls.

Student Senate and the Wartburg Bookstore also have collaborated on promoting reusable water bottles by offering a 25 percent discount (15 percent from the bookstore; 10 percent from student government).

"My hope for this year," Duncan said, "is to have students realize that there is a fiscal impact with recycling. They probably don't realize that we get money for our recycling. If they don't put something in the garbage, it's saving us money and has an impact on our overall budget."



<http://www.wartburg.edu/sustainability/>



Wartburg students produced 800 lbs. of fresh produce in their campus garden.

Wartburg 'carbon footprint' reduced by 18 percent

Wartburg College's first energy-savings report card is in — and it's impressive.

Terry Rowe, sales project manager for Schneider Electric, which is overseeing the college's \$2.4 million project, told a Campus Sustainability Day gathering Oct. 25, that with 90 percent of the work done, Wartburg had already reduced its carbon footprint by 18 percent.

To put it into perspective, compares to each of the following:

- 394 cars taken off the road.
- 237 houses.
- 73,387 trees being planted.

Rowe said in terms of actual energy usage, the projects "have taken 1.7 megawatts off the Waverly Light and Power line," will reduce water usage by 4.2 million gallons annually and cut natural gas consumption by 133,000 therms.

A therm is equivalent to 100,000 British Thermal Units. A BTU measures the energy required to raise the heat of a pound of water by 1-degree Fahrenheit.

"A unique concept" of the recent work, Rowe said, was the installation of the "heat-recovery chiller system." He described it as "reverse refrigeration," comparing it to the heat emitted by a refrigerator while it keeps contents cold.

Each person, he said, puts out 900 BTUs of heat, while there are 12,000 BTUs in a ton of air conditioning, "so every 13 people put out a ton of air conditioning. We take the thermal energy and run it in reverse."

That reverse effect, he said, uses cold air from air conditioning in the Wartburg-Waverly Sports & Wellness Center to heat the pool and showers in the building.

Schneider Electric has guaranteed annual savings of \$270,000.

"If we don't make that number," Rowe said, "we'll write a check for the shortfall," adding, "We'll be a partner with you for a long time."

Rowe said the remaining work mostly includes "troubleshooting" to make sure everything is working as efficiently as possible.

Schneider, he added, will be advising the college on "future sustainability projects," including the possibility of wind and solar.

"We can't rely on the old stuff, the carbon-based fuels," he said.

Dining Services helps lead the sustainability charge

by Saul Shapiro

Margaret Empie, director of Wartburg College Dining Services, envisioned that students would readily accept “trayless dining” in the Mensa cafeteria because “they don’t use trays at home.”

So she began the pioneering program during Earth Week 2008 to reduce trays washed and food wasted, earning national recognition in the process.

But not all students were enthralled.

“The idea of trayless dining in a cafeteria setting is impractical,” said one Wartburg student blogger. “Your plates are not big enough for multiple entrees and a person needs at least two drinking glasses to satiate his/her thirst. I do not care if it is Earth Week. ... One week without trays at Wartburg College is not going to make a huge impact on the amount of food that is wasted in the U.S. in a year.”

To punctuate her displeasure, she wrote, “I hate you Mensa. I really really do.”

Three years later, trayless dining is a non-issue at Wartburg, although many campuses are reluctant to make the move, wary of angry students in the dining halls and blogosphere.

At Wartburg, it’s been a game-changer in many ways.

“We saved 176,400 gallons of water from trayless dining last year, and we saved chemicals,” Empie said.

“The theory is that we would save so much food every year, but people figured out how to carry more on their plates, going back and forth,” she added. “We saved 78,231 pounds of food in a year. Given all the food

we use, it isn’t that much. But food prices have gone up, and we’re not making food just to throw it out. It’s not just buying the food; it’s processing it and cooking it.”

While trayless dining was initially broached just for Earth Week, “It worked out so well,” Empie said, “that instead of doing it for the week and maybe changing it later, we just decided to keep going.

“That,” she added, “was the hard part, because some people thought, ‘You just tricked us.’”

Adjustments were made based on students’ comment-card responses.

“The glasses were too small,” she said, “so we bought bigger ones. We bought bigger plates, too. But nobody uses them now, so we won’t buy any more.”

The move helped save dishroom labor costs, but sloppier tables required more cleanup. In fact, “going green” has been something of a balancing act in Dining Services.

Replacing environmentally unfriendly Styrofoam cups with those made from recycled materials was more expensive — in the short run. Dining Services lowered “refill” prices to encourage customers to bring containers.

Sustainability practices were initiated in other areas, too.

“Preconsumer waste — food that has never touched consumers’ plates such as watermelon rinds, egg shells and coffee grounds — is being used in the campus garden for compost or is being taken to the Waverly compost area,” Empie said.

Napkin dispensers were yanked in favor of napkins on tables, saving “thousands of dollars,” Empie said, “because people take what they need instead of handfuls.”



Dining Services set up tables in the Mensa food court rather than the cafeteria area during the summer to save money on utilities and other expenses.

New frontloading dishwashing machines are a boon to energy savings. And it’s lights out in the Mensa whenever possible.

“During the summer we had people eating in the food court, because we’re not feeding more than 80 people at a time,” Empie said. “We don’t have the lights on in the dining room. We’re not cleaning it. We’re not vacuuming it. It saves labor, lights, electricity, and chemicals. It makes it cozier and more family-oriented. It’s like eating in your own kitchen.”

Plastic, cardboard, metal, and oils are recycled — some of it for pay. But it’s not always win-win.

“We’ve switched to green chemicals in some areas. But in a couple of cases, we couldn’t use them because the laundry detergent wouldn’t get things cleaned,” Empie said.

Students have led the charge to go green, but Empie believes their commitment — as with most people — is also tied to pocketbook issues. “Would students pay more for their food plan if it gave them more organic food? Probably not.”

Wartburg turns off the lights and adds up the savings

If the lights are off at Wartburg College, it doesn't mean no one is home.

As part of a \$2.4 million energy-savings initiative that will save the college an estimated \$270,000 per year, sensors are turning off lights if body heat or motion isn't evident for 10 minutes.

The energy-saving projects, which will be largely implemented by the end of 2011, also include:

- Retrofitting or replacing 4,000 light fixtures in nine buildings that lacked newer, more efficient fluorescent lights.
- Installing a 93 percent efficient steam boiler in Luther Hall and Neumann Auditorium, replacing one that was 65 percent energy efficient.
- Installing control units for heating and cooling that will take advantage of Waverly Light and Power's rate structure to provide savings by turning on air conditioning in stages without sacrificing comfort.
- Using new low-flush toilets and lower-flow sink and shower fixtures in buildings and residence halls that don't already have them.
- Implementing a "heat recovery system" in The W that will use excess heat for hot water, including showers.
- Installing a carbon-dioxide sensor in the Wartburg Chapel and Vogel Library to sense how many people are in the buildings and turn down the demand for fresh air as appropriate.

A road paved with green intentions Car-sharing program aids environment

by Saul Shapiro

A new car-sharing program at Wartburg College may prompt some of the 1,100 students who park their vehicles on campus to leave them home.

A Toyota Prius and Scion XB became available at an hourly rate to eligible members of the campus community at the start of the academic year through U-Haul Car Share.

"People really love it," said Cassandra Allen, project manager for the Phoenix-based U-Haul division, which is on 23 campuses nationwide. "We are there to solve the residential campus dilemma of not having a car when it's needed and to match campus sustainability efforts."

Anne Duncan, Wartburg's environmental sustainability coordinator, pursued the program and the "green" cars.

"My hope is that U-Haul Car Share will service the college community in two ways," she said, "independence for the carless, and motivation to be carless. This program will allow more independence for our large population of international students and students who choose to not bring cars to campus."

The one-time membership fee is \$15. The hourly rate is \$4.95, plus 49 cents per mile, including gas, insurance, roadside maintenance, and customer service. After nine miles, the mileage rate is automatically dropped, making it \$8.50 per hour for the Scion and \$9.50 for the Prius with 180 free miles for each — the difference based on the cars' price tags.



U-Haul Car Share is expected to be a boon to international students who lack transportation. Yuk Teng Chan '14 from Tanzania and Sonachi Mogbogu '14 from Nigeria checked out the program this summer.

Duncan said students should look at the expense of having a car on campus.

"When you consider the ever-increasing costs of owning and maintaining a vehicle, I think it really makes you ask, 'Is it worth it?'" she said. "For a student who only needs a car for shopping trips, it may be significantly cheaper to be a member of U-Haul Car Share than have a car payment and worry about gas, insurance, maintenance, and parking."

Eligibility requirements are different for drivers 18-21, who must be moving-violation free, and those 22 and over, who can be disqualified for having excessive-speeding tickets (10 mph or more over the limit) or drunken-driving citations, among other concerns.

Reservations are made online or by phone. A PIN is needed to unlock the car. The keys are tethered to the steering wheel and a gas card is available. The cars are available on a 24/7 basis.

Wartburg Choir rocks Europe during tour

by Saul Shapiro

The Wartburg Choir took on the aura of rock stars during last May's international tour — its first under the direction of Dr. Lee Nelson.

"Hands alone were not sufficient for the final applause, so audience members enthusiastically stomped their feet," wrote an Ohringen, Germany, reviewer. "The concert ended with an encore of 'Hark I Hear the Harps Eternal,' which brought the audience to its feet, clapping along with the choir."

After a concert in Ludwigsstadt, Germany, a reviewer stated, "The voices resounded with an enormous power through the church. Viewers were spellbound. The experience raised goose bumps. One was reminded of the film music of epics like *Lord of the Rings* or *Gladiator*."

Nelson was caught off guard by the adulation during the 15-concert swing through six countries from April 30 to May 24. This was his first international tour with the ensemble. He became only the fourth director in its now 74-year history when hired two years ago. He previously taught at St. Cloud (Minn.) State University.

"There was kind of a celebrity feel to the trip," he said. "It was very surprising and unique to me, very humbling and a lot of fun. Stomping their feet was the norm in some places. That kind of response, they explained it to me, is relatively uncommon over there. It's beyond a standing ovation. I was blown away."

"At a lot of these places there was newspaper coverage, and radio stations recorded the concerts," Nelson added. "In some places, people videotaped it, hoping to broadcast it or, at least, different parts of it."

The 85-member choir performed in Hungary, Germany, Austria, Norway, Sweden and Denmark, with audiences ranging from several hundred at smaller churches to nearly 800 at its



The Wartburg Choir returned to the Roskilde Cathedral in Denmark where Dr. Edwin Liemohn had taken the first international choir tour in 1959.

largest venue — a packed concert at the Wartburg Castle in Eisenach, Germany.

"Our theme was 'Sing to the Lord a New Song!' which honored the past traditions of the Wartburg Choir," Nelson said, "while acknowledging the future direction and evolution of the choir."

The tour had other "themes" as well. Three stops honored St. Elizabeth, Germany's first female Franciscan nun who was canonized in 1235 for her dedication to helping the poor.

The choir performed in Sárospatak, Hungary, where she was born; Eisenach, where she was brought at age 4 to live in the Wartburg Castle, eventually becoming the bride of Ludwig IV of Thuringia at 14; and Marburg, Germany, where she lived after her husband's death during the crusades and is buried.

The Scandinavian concerts paid tribute to the Norwegian heritage of Dr. Edwin Liemohn, who founded the choir in 1937 and led its first European tour in 1959. Some of those stops were revisited, and the program included

"hallmark works sung by past Wartburg choirs," Nelson said.

The choir also premiered two new compositions. *Herr, neige deine Ohren und erhöre mich* ("Mister, incline thy ear and hear me") was written for the choir by German composer Siegmund Schmidt, while *Sacred Origins* by Norwegian-born, New York City-based composer Ola Gjeilo was commissioned by Liemohn's children in honor of their father.

The varied program also included songs written by composers from the concert areas as well as American folk songs and spirituals. Tenor Dr. Brian Pfaltzgraff, assistant professor of music, sang *I Lift Mine Eyes Unto the Hills* by African-American composer Adolphus Hailstork and other selections. The potpourri carried some risks.

"European audiences are still very classically trained, so at a concert they expect the same time period," said Dr. Edith Waldstein, Wartburg's vice president for enrollment, who accompanied the choir at some stops this year and in years past. "They wouldn't expect a contemporary piece

Continued on page 8

with a medieval piece, and often they expect just one composer.

"So when they see our program, they're taken aback. But when they hear it, they're bowled over. They love it."

Indeed, it was a winning combination, notably at the Wartburg Castle, where the choir performs every three years during its international tour rotation.

"In its entirety," the Eisenach reviewer wrote, "this presentation of the Wartburg Choir proved to be one of the most soulful choir concerts the Wartburg Castle may have experienced — and this despite the fact that the ensemble consists largely of amateurs between the ages of 18 and 22 who study business administration, rocket science, or mathematics at Wartburg College, rather than pursuing any artistic career."

"I was really excited to hear that," said Nelson, who acknowledged "a good sense of pressure."

"When you're planning the concerts, you know the audiences will think about their experiences with (director) Jim Fritschel (1968-84) and Paul Torkelson (1984-2009) and Dr. Liemohn," he said.

"I knew that it was going to be a little bit of a different experience for that audience because it was a different conductor and the sound might be a little different. So I had a little bit of anxiety. We tried to combine a refreshed approach and tie it back to our traditions. To hear comments like that shows us what we accomplished."



The choir performed to rave reviews at the Wartburg Castle.

Nelson was impressed by the growth of his students during the tour.

"The choir sang consistently well," he said. "Every time they stepped onto the stage, they sang with a greater level of musical excellence than they did at the concert before. I was very, very proud of what the students accomplished and how they represented the college."

The students knew the bar had been raised, said Trevor Carolan '11 of Charles City, the outgoing student body president, organist and veteran of the 2008 international tour.

"I feel that this year's tour program was more challenging than in '08 in a couple of ways," he said. "First off, the opener was J.S. Bach's great *Singet Dem Herrn ein Neues Lied*. We worked on it for eight months. The sheer sense of accomplishment of completing that piece and performing it in Germany, where it was written, was quite amazing."

The Scandinavian concerts, though, were the highlights for him.

"While all of the venues that we sang in had significant historic qualities, the cathedrals of Roskilde, Denmark, and Oslo, Norway, were quite amazing," he said. "The cathedral in Oslo has been the site of many Norwegian royal weddings and funerals, and the Roskilde Cathedral is where many kings and queens of Denmark are interred."

"I also had the chance to play the magnificent organ of the cathedral, which was built in 1554. Knowing that this organ has been played for all of the Danish royal functions, and that many famous organists and composers have played it in the past half-millennium, made it an experience I will never forget."

Nelson also was gratified by the choir's experiences off stage.

"The home stays were a huge part of this trip," he said. "The students build a connection with those people in such a short time. During our first stop in Sárospatak, Hungary, all the host families were waiting for us — a mob of people

clapping as the buses rolled in. And the students were clapping as they came off.

"The students stayed in the homes for three nights, and language was definitely a barrier. But by the time we left four days later, the entire choir was in tears. The host families were in tears. There were lots of hugs; everybody was holding hands.

"We have this amazing picture of a high school student dressed all in black with multiple piercings, who was just weeping. The choir was singing songs to thank them as we were leaving. It was just so powerful to see that connection built in such a short period of time. All of the students brought gifts to give to the host families, and many of those families brought gifts to give to the students."

Music, Carolan said, helped bridge any communication gaps.

"It is an international language that transcends all others. As a choir, we realize there are people who cannot understand the words we are singing. But the passion and emotion that comes across sends a message to the audience more powerful than words on a page. It is the message of emotion, forgiveness, and faith.

"We often heard from people amazed at the power of our concerts and the maturity of our sound and our message," he added. "I believe these messages that we gave to audiences throughout Europe were learned at Wartburg College. The program we performed could not have been performed to the same degree at a school not as connected to faith as we are at Wartburg."

Web Connect

To hear the Wartburg Choir perform at the Wartburg Castle during its international tour, go to <http://www.wartburg.edu/choir/highlights.html>



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Choir concert reviews

Voices that Enchant

May 23 concert

Ludwigsstadt, Germany

By Stefan Zipfel

"Be awesome," Dr. Lee Nelson told his students as they entered the church of St. Michael. ... His 85 choristers did not disappoint him. Hardly anyone in the room knew what to expect. Then Nelson swung into gear ... with liquid and stylish hand movements he directed his choir. ...

The ability of the choir was evident throughout the concert, but especially with the song Battle of Jericho by Moses Hogan, which requires rapid musical exchanges between singers. Nelson conducted the entire evening from memory. Impressive.

No less convincing was the enthusiasm with which the students presented their songs. A look at their faces is enough to see the joy they have in singing. ...

Many can hardly describe after the concert, what they've experienced. Deputy District Officer Jutta Laczó (said), "I find no words to describe it. This sound, this diversity. (It was) indescribable."

A First-Class Concert

May 24 concert

Probstzella, Germany

From Culture Probstzella

The young, powerfully voiced artists in the choir delivered a surprisingly transparent and clear-voiced performance to motets by Johann Sebastian Bach and by Heinrich Schütz, in easily understandable diction. ... The dynamic development and great vocal beauty of the chorus was especially impressive in In Pace (by American composer Rene Clausen).

The fervor of American gospel music in (assistant professor of music) Brian Pfaltzgraff's solo tenor voice rang out over the choir as they presented a work by the American Adolphus Hailstork. ...

After a series of encores, the singers surrounded the listeners in a large circle and closed the concert with a sung benediction, which moved many of the choristers and listeners to tears. This was an altogether unforgettable experience for the audience.

Wartburg Choir from Sister City Waverly Returns

May 21 concert

Eisenach, Germany

Performances by the internationally renowned Wartburg College Choir from the U.S. partner city of Waverly are always a special experience, not least because of the infectious enthusiasm with which the young singers from Iowa and their youthful conductor, Dr. Lee D. Nelson, enveloped the Festival Hall of their eponymous castle.

So it was last Saturday, when the Wartburg Choir ... presented the audience with Sing to the Lord a New Song, an excellent program of the highest quality. ...

The choir presented the world premiere of Herr, erneige dein Ohr und erhöhe mich by Siegmund Schmidt and Sacred Origins by Ola Gjeilo in absolutely top form. Both works present an elevated level of difficulty for even a professional choir, but Dr. Lee Nelson, with a remarkable sense for all of the nuances waiting within the compositions, had no problems conducting the highly trained choir.

After Edward Grieg's challenging piece, God's Son Has Made Me Free, the Wartburg Choir began its final set with an emotional farewell lap of known hymns, of which the impressive light-filled rendition of Amazing Grace sung by Brian Pfaltzgraff again significantly stands out. As a finale, the singers left the stage to stand in the aisles and sing Give Me Jesus, sharing a deeply touching goodbye with the audience.

A Noble Sound

May 8 concert

Öhringen, Germany

By Claudia Burkert Ankenbrand

The motets of Johann Sebastian Bach are unmatched peaks of a genre that has its roots in the Middle Ages. The Wartburg Choir ... scaled those heights in Sing Unto the Lord a New Song. The music requires a lightly dancing interpretation from an enormously energetic chorus, one capable of singing sensitive, long-breathed phrases. This is exceptionally high vocal and interpretive art. ... The choir sang with significant power, which Dr. (Lee) Nelson deftly harnessed during intimate musical moments.

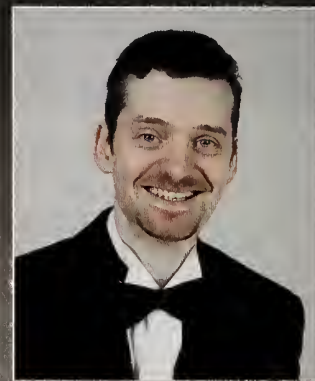
The joy of all participants was also evident in the choir's heartfelt communication of the text and sound design of the motet Selig sind die Toten by Heinrich Schütz. Nelson's delicate balance of purity and power ensured a smooth and crystal clear sound. The individual voices blended seamlessly together, in perfectly tuned harmony and expression.

The program also featured two premieres. The Öhringer composer Siegmund Schmidt set the 86th Psalm to music, using his characteristic polytonal and atonal sound structures to frame a fervent prayer that ends with praise. The young, 85-voice choir captured remarkably the spirit of polyphonic technique in the harmonies of Sacred Origins, a premiere composed by the young Norwegian Ola Gjeilo, which heavenly sounds honor Edwin Liemohn, the choir's founder.

New Wartburg Community Symphony conductor follows his own map

Kaplunas' travels take him from Lithuania to Waverly to teach string instruments

by Saul Shapiro



Dr. Daniel Kaplunas

Dr. Daniel Kaplunas' destiny as a musician was preordained.

His father has been the principal cellist for the Lithuanian National Symphony Orchestra for more than 20 years. His mother was principal second violinist of the Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra before retiring.

"Music was everywhere," he said. "That's all my parents did all day."

The award-winning violinist from Vilnius, Lithuania, joined the Wartburg College faculty this fall as an assistant professor of music, teaching violin and viola, conducting, and string methods. He also has taken the Wartburg Community Symphony baton from Dr. Janice Wade, its music director and conductor for 24 years.

"Dr. Kaplunas is a gifted violinist who will work well with our current and future violin and viola students," said Dr. Ferol Menzel, the retired dean of the faculty and a former symphony president who was involved in the search. "He is also a successful and experienced conductor who understands the mission of a community symphony."

Kaplunas and his wife, Christine, are ecstatic about the new assignment.

"We love the people here, the city and, of course, the college," he said, eyes lighting up. "It has been a very positive experience."

It was love at first sight for Kaplunas, who had been to Iowa six times previously as a guest artist at St. Ambrose University in Davenport.

"The more I learned about Wartburg, the more excited I got about coming here," he said. "During my interview I saw the campus and met so many wonderful people — students, faculty, staff. I knew right away I wanted to be here."

"From the age of six until high school graduation at 18, I attended a special school where curriculum was specifically designed to train future professional musicians," Kaplunas said. "The academic and music subjects were integrated to provide balanced training."

In 1994 Kaplunas won the Lithuanian Young Artists' National Chamber Music Competition. A year later, he placed first in the national Young Artists' Solo Competition.

Kaplunas savored those experiences.

"The grueling preparation for a serious competition instills discipline," he said. "I also learned to perform in high-pressure situations — a must for a performer."

It also whet his appetite for life beyond Lithuania.

"Traveling is often an integral part of a musician's life — seeing different countries, meeting and making music with people from all over Europe was incredibly stimulating and eye-opening," he said.

His timing was fortuitous. Lithuania had freed itself from the Soviet yoke in 1990. The door for young artists had just begun to open. Kaplunas got his opportunity to leave in 1995 with a full scholarship to the famed Interlochen Center for the Arts.

"I was somewhat ambivalent about going so far away from home right after high school, especially since I was already admitted to a music conservatory in Lithuania," he recalled. "But my family encouraged me to go. Chances like that were rare and should not be passed up."

He graduated from Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan in 1997 and completed his Bachelor (2001) and Master (2003) of Music degrees in violin performance at the University of North Texas, where he won the UNT concerto competition.

Kaplunas taught at Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville from 2006 to 2010, first as an adjunct and the latter two years as an assistant professor after earning his doctorate in musical arts from the University of Georgia in 2008. He conducted the GCSU orchestra and was an assistant conductor with the University of Georgia Philharmonic Orchestra.

Kaplunas takes pride in his turn as a guest conductor for the highly regarded ARCO Chamber Orchestra, featuring an international blend of musicians. Founded by Levon Ambartsumian at the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory, it relocated to the University of Georgia's Hodgson School of Music.

"Some of my most incredible — and unusual — musical experiences come from working closely on modern music with living composers," Kaplunas said. "Having the composer right there next to you —

Wardell reads to more than 15,000 kids on IPTV Reading Road Trip

by Kristin Canning '14

...ing, explaining, guiding you through the music — can be transformational. The notes on the page suddenly come alive, and the original intent of the composer is expressed to you directly. Imagine Mozart or Beethoven standing right next to you guiding you through their music.”

Most recently, Kaplunas was an assistant professor of music at Agnes Scott College, a private women’s liberal arts institution in Decatur, Ga., where he also conducted the Agnes Scott College Community Orchestra.

Wartburg students should expect Kaplunas to be “a very demanding and nurturing” teacher. “I try to create a positive learning environment that stimulates the students’ thinking, encourages and motivates them to be better students, musicians and people.”

He also promises a new outlet for their talents.

“We will have a chamber orchestra that will play strings-only, lighter, more fun stuff,” Kaplunas said. “We have some really good high school students in the area. So with a lighter orchestra, specifically for non-music majors, less advanced music students or high school students, we may capture another segment of the population.”

Meanwhile, he and Christine have quickly acclimated to their new home.

Christine, who graduated in May from the Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Ga., is doing an internship at the Cedar Heights Community Presbyterian Church. Daniel performs on the violin at church services. Christine plays the violin with the Wartburg Community Symphony. They performed together at the University of Georgia.

They’re finding the rural environs of Iowa preferable to urban life in Atlanta.

“Waverly is so good for walking, biking and kayaking. We like to be active, and the air is so clear here and there’s no traffic,” Kaplunas said.

“The other thing,” he added, “is the way people speak. You can actually understand them as opposed to some places in North Texas and Georgia. That’s made things much easier.”

Dan Wardell’s plea for children “to turn their TVs off” and read has them engaged in books, but also worried that he’s jeopardizing his job.

Wardell ’98, host of Iowa Public Television’s *Kids Clubhouse*, read to a record 15,465 kids at 65 libraries during IPTV’s fifth annual Reading Road Trip in 2011. That was 1,323 more than his previous mark set in 2008.

“The kids have a lot of fun and at the end we remind them that all of the adventures they just had happened right there in the library,” said Wardell, whose journeys are chronicled on his IPTV *Dantastic Blog*.

“My story times focus on turning the TV off, going outside to play, using imagination, and reading books,” Wardell said, reflecting themes of *Kids Clubhouse*.

“Kids always tell me they are going to turn their TVs off — or they show me their hands to prove to me that they have clean hands; I talk a lot about washing your hands on TV,” Wardell said. “It’s funny, kids come up to me and tell me that they’re worried I will lose my job if everyone turns off the TV.”

Perhaps winning an Upper Midwest Emmy in September for best program for “Children 12 and Under” will improve the perception of job security.

In addition to his summer reading expedition, Wardell also interacted with 23,180 kids during the 2010-11 school year. “I visit schools, day cares, libraries, and town celebrations across the state.”

While the Wartburg communication arts major didn’t have a specific children’s media track, Wardell said, “I was able to weave my interests into courses and projects just the same as those who wanted to do news reporting or sports reporting.”

“The nice thing about Wartburg is there are lots of opportunities to grow and focus in the direction you want to take,” Wardell said.

Wardell takes pride in the role he plays. “Parents, teachers, and librarians appreciate the learning opportunities that IPTV brings to their community, not just through their television sets, but also through interactive visits to their libraries and schools,” Wardell said.

“Seeing all the fun and laughter that comes from the kids makes for a pretty amazing job,” he added. “We reinforce what librarians try to teach kids every day: The library is a fun place.”



Dan Wardell '98 visited with children at 65 public libraries during his 2011 Reading Road Tour.

Kristin Canning is a communication arts major from Lisbon.

Out of Africa, can Hafermann settle down?

by Saul Shapiro

The Rev. Herb Hafermann '59 is just not the retiring type, although he keeps trying.

A longtime Evangelical Lutheran Church pastor in Tanzania, he first retired in 2003. But his ongoing "volunteer" work with the church and coordination of Wartburg College's study-abroad Diers Program seemed to bely that.

He "retired" again last summer, supposedly settling into a residence in Waverly's Eisenach Village. But after a brief homecoming in July, Hafermann and his wife, Kirsten, took off for five weeks in her native Denmark and other European sites.

Hafermann had lived in Tanzania in southeastern Africa almost continuously for the last 48 years — save for sabbaticals in the United States — after getting his bachelor's degree in biology from Wartburg College and a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Wartburg Seminary in 1963. He returned to obtain his Master of Sacred Theology degree from the seminary during a sabbatical in 1972.

Although he had considered combining his interest in biology and theology to become a hospital chaplain, Hafermann's career path had early influences.

He grew up as a "preacher's kid" in Illinois and Minnesota in a household frequented by Lutheran missionaries who had served in Tanganyika, a one-time German colony that came under British control after World War I. It gained independence in 1961 and became Tanzania in 1964 after unification with neighboring Zanzibar.

Hafermann took on many roles in the fast-growing Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania with more than five million members. He's been the equivalent of a bishop in the capital of Dar es Salaam, with a population then of 600,000 (now 4.5 million),



Here to stay? The Rev. Herb Hafermann '59 was back at Wartburg during the summer.

to a district supervisor in Morogoro, 120 miles west in the foothills, once an outpost but now with more than 200,000 people and two state universities.

At the Lutheran Junior Seminary, established in Morogoro in 1975, he supervised the language school, which draws students from around the world to learn Swahili, and taught religion and biology to Tanzanians.

Simultaneously since 1986-87, Hafermann had been the point-person for the Diers Program in Tanzania. Wartburg's homegrown, semester-long study-abroad experience is named after Dr. Herman Diers, professor of religion emeritus, who partnered with Hafermann to develop a curriculum focusing on cultural immersion as well as doing an independent-study project.

Students begin their studies at the Lutheran Junior Seminary by learning the native tongue.

"Taking Swahili throws them in with an international community — Indians,

Koreans, and Japanese at the language school," Hafermann said. "Even when Wartburg students come for May Term courses, they take one week of Swahili at that language school, just so it isn't noise to them."

Hafermann's longstanding relationships have proven invaluable in advancing cultural immersion.

"Pastor Hafermann organized and planned service activities and travel opportunities for us while we were in the country," said Michael Stevenson '12, who spent Fall Term 2010 in Tanzania. "Most importantly, he would invite us to accompany him to different villages to attend church services."

"We were able to interact with the Maasai and observe their culture, something that is difficult for 'outsiders' to do. While at the villages, the deep respect Pastor Hafermann received was overwhelming. It was truly remarkable to see the relationships he has built in his many years living in Tanzania."

But the road to cultural immersion, Hafermann said, is literally not well paved.

"I would take the Wartburg students along to villages scattered all over the Morogoro region. It would take 2½ hours just to get there on roads," he said, pausing. "Well, it would be a compliment to call them roads. The students would be received in a village and get a good look at village life. There was nothing touristy about it."

Hafermann takes great pride in the Lutheran Junior Seminary, primarily a boarding school for Tanzanian students considered among the best schools in the country. One alumnus, Dr. Jesse Lutabingwa '86, matriculated to Wartburg and is now associate vice chancellor at Appalachian State University in North Carolina.

When the Lutheran Junior Seminary moved to Morogoro 36 years ago, Hafermann described the region as



Hafermann spent 48 years in Tanzania, mostly at the Lutheran Junior Seminary in Morogoro.

a Christian “no man’s land.” Since then, it has become a fertile region for Lutheran growth. The district, which he headed while teaching, grew from 1,900 in 1999 to 18,000 today.

“We have been responsible for building more than 40 churches,” Hafermann said. “Sometimes the Wartburg kids over May Term have spent time helping to build those churches. Part of the logic of putting the school in a not-intense Lutheran area was to establish a real Lutheran milieu in that area. Morogoro, which had one Lutheran church, now has nine just in the urban areas.”

The Maasai, once resistant to Christianity, have become more accepting, Hafermann said. He cites the emergence of Lutheran pastors who grew up in the households of “the Loibons,” spiritual leaders akin to sorcerers.

“Loibons are normally briefed on any activity in the community and most of the time are consulted whenever misfortune arises,” he said. “Their decisions are final and are not negotiable. The Maasai people respect the Loibon more than the head of state. Loibons also serve as healers, dispensing herbal remedies to treat physical ailments and ritual treatment to absolve social and moral transgressions in the community. They could put a curse on a whole group of people.

“So that’s part of the excitement — to see the changes in the lives of those people.”

Christianity has been a unifying force and a difference-maker.

“As Christians the Maasai have found a new sense of community,” Hafermann said. “They had been abused by the government. They have had their cattle confiscated and been pushed out of some places. But Christians among the Parakuyo people (semipastoral people closely related to the Maasai) have organized themselves and bought up land. It’s because of education and Christianity.”

“Christianity has really taken away fear — fear of sorcery — and has given them their freedom,” he added. “One man told me, ‘It used to be where the men would take their cattle to market every

week’ — that was their bank; if you needed money you’d sell some cattle — and they’d get roaring drunk and wouldn’t come back home. And, probably, if the wife asked about the money, they’d beat her. Now it has changed. When they become Christians, they don’t drink.”

Hafermann said that’s a residual effect of Christianity.

“It’s interesting because we don’t have any rules whatsoever. But they have decided they want a new lifestyle, and they remember how bad alcohol was for them. So most of them voluntarily leave off.”

Instead, they place more emphasis on education and medical care.

“We’ve witnessed this sea change among these people,” he remarked. “I think that’s some of the excitement the Wartburg kids have been in on, just to see these people and to hear and to know.”

Reflecting on his own Wartburg experience and how it influenced his calling, Hafermann cites “the sense of community” at the college, “which I’ve been able to hook into and help establish as we went overseas.”

“It was just a warm Christian community,” he added. “I had wonderful biology teachers like Elmer Hertel and Leo Petri, while in other places they were still fighting about evolution. (English professor) Erna Moehl also was someone I would love to emulate.

“And there were some very good pastors here. I always felt very good coming back to Wartburg. I got to meet Larry Trachte. I became good friends with (former professor of religion) Fred Strickert, who took May Term classes to Tanzania.”

He met Kirsten ’87, a missionary, while they were in language school in the former Tanganyika in 1963, and they married a year later. She graduated from Wartburg in 1987 during one of their sabbaticals after previously taking courses in Denmark, England, and at then Clarke College in Dubuque.

Their sons — brothers adopted from Guatemala — are both Wartburg graduates as well. Delmar ’00 lives in Iowa City, and Belarmino ’04 is in Cedar Falls.

“We’re a Wartburg College family, and when we thought of retiring, Kirsten, who’s a Dane, wondered, ‘Do I want to come back to this rough-and-tough American society?’ But she found Waverly and Wartburg as places where she has felt very comfortable. I have never felt the warmth and sense of community lacking.”

Wartburg alumnae were Peace Corps pioneers

Rosalie Froehlich and Joyce Schuett heeded Kennedy's call to volunteer

by Saul Shapiro

When President John F. Kennedy appealed to youthful idealism in 1961 to promote "world peace and understanding," two Wartburg College students were among the first to respond.

"What could have inspired me more than to have President Kennedy say, 'Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country?'" recalled Rosalie Froehlich Boots '62. "And then the Peace Corps was started."

Kennedy created a pilot program by executive order 50 days after taking office in 1961. Congress approved permanent legislation that September for the Peace Corps, which commemorated its 50th anniversary this fall.

Boots and classmate Joyce Shuett Seeger soon became pioneers among the 200,000 Peace Corps volunteers who have served in 76 countries.

Seeger — a member of the Wartburg Young Democrats captivated in her youth by ViewMaster world slides — jumped at the chance to go overseas.

Boots, a Rockford, Ill., native, and Seeger, from Watertown, Wis., were in the seventh Peace Corps group assigned. Coincidentally, both were bound for the

island of Mindanao in the Philippines to teach English and science. (Boots' brother, Joe Froehlich, also joined and was sent to Sierra Leone in Africa.)

"I went to a globe and realized the Philippines was halfway around the world," Seeger said, "and I was excited because I would be going as far away as possible."



Boots majored in English at Wartburg and met requirements for teaching in secondary education. (She also sang in the Wartburg Choir, edited *The Castle* literary magazine and received the Graduating Senior Journalism Award.)

Seeger was a history major who planned to teach secondary education.

They took a 10-week training course about Filipino language and culture before departing. While English has been one of the official languages in the Philippines since 1930 — 32 years after the United States ousted the Spanish colonialists in the Spanish-America War — the primary language then and now is Filipino, a version of Tagalog.

"Teaching English was where they had the greatest need," Seeger said. "Students were taught English as a subject in first and second grade, and

then starting in third grade all subjects were to be taught in English. But the teachers did not know English well enough to do this, so we taught the teachers as well as the students."

"We also held adult night classes to help people with English and to teach science to adults," Boots said. "I remember one night we had a caribou's head that we studied as part of the science class."

"It was very rewarding, and we all learned from each other," Seeger added. "The cultural learning is always the most important and long-lasting."

And they adapted to their new environment.

"We lived in a house on stilts to stay dry during the rainy season," Seeger said. "We had no electricity, and our windows had louvers that could be adjusted — no glass or screens. We slept with mosquito netting."

"It was very important for the Filipinos not to let any food go to waste," Boots recalled. "I didn't realize this would include their pet dogs. So when one of the neighborhood dogs was killed on the road, the family invited us over for dinner that evening. However, when we learned it was to eat their dog, we stayed home."

They also were disconnected from home during a tumultuous time.



"The Peace Corps provided us with a radio, and we listened to Voice of America," Seeger said. "The Cuban Missile Crisis and especially the Kennedy assassination were difficult times for us. Once during the two years, when I was in Manila, I phoned my parents. Otherwise communication was only by letter."

Seeger did a two-year stint and Boots 13 months before both returned home to teach.

Seeger, of San Bernardino, Calif., taught in the nearby Redlands School District. She earned a Master of Arts degree from Cal State San Bernardino in 1982.

Seeger reconnected with her alma mater in 1979 when her family — her husband and both sets of parents — took a Wartburg Alumni Reformation Tour of Germany with history professor Dr. Gerhard Ottersberg, her "most memorable professor."

She is on the board of directors of Central City Lutheran Mission in San Bernardino, where Wartburg Hall has housed Wartburg students doing semester-long or May Term inner-city service work.

Seeger has two children and two grandchildren, including Jennifer Seeger '94.

Boots splits her time now between Uniontown, Pa., and

Las Cruces, N.M. She taught English in middle school until she married and started a family. She then earned a Master of Library Science degree in 1995 and had a second career as a cataloging librarian at Seton Hill College near Pittsburgh.

She has two children, two stepchildren, and five grandchildren.

Seeger's Peace Corps experience, she said, gave her greater global awareness and compassion about inequity, including the need to pursue "justice and opportunity for those without influence or economic means."

Boots, a member of the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Pittsburgh, and her husband volunteer with Global Links, a nonprofit organization that ships medical supplies to developing countries, and have worked on Habitat for Humanity projects.

"We volunteer in many ways with our church," she said. "I have sewn many tote bags for school kits for the United Methodist Committee on Relief. We have gone on mission trips, including one to Russia."

Boots added, "For the part that Wartburg College and the Peace Corps played in leading me in the direction of service, I am grateful."



Watson living his dream in professional baseball

by Saul Shapiro

Bradley Watson '11 admitted to having some anxieties as he began his professional baseball career last summer in the St. Louis Cardinals' organization.

Watson, the Iowa Conference Pitcher of the Year in 2011, was selected in the 37th round in Major League Baseball's June draft. He joined the Cardinals' Jupiter, Fla., Gulf Coast Instructional League farm team in late June.

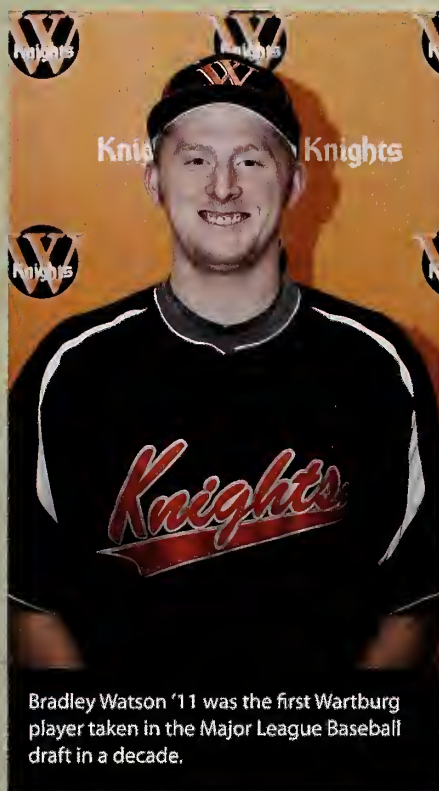
"I think coming down here I had some skepticism and nervousness about how I would fit into professional baseball coming from a D3 college," he said. "But I think I've fit in pretty well."

Very well, in fact. Watson, a tall, lanky (6-4, 185) righthander, had a 5-1 record with a 2.22 earned run average, striking out 35, while walking only five. During his final six starts, his ERA was under 1.55.

"Finally getting to know the guys down here on the team and getting into the swing of things, I started calming down a bit," Watson said. "When I got into my first game, I did pretty well. I was calm after that. I knew I could compete at this level."

Statistically, his season has been comparable to his senior year at Wartburg, when he compiled one of the top single-season pitching efforts in school history. Watson was 10-4 with a 2.07 ERA, five complete games, one shutout and 88 strikeouts. He made the American Baseball Coaches Association all-Central Region squad and gained honorable mention All-American D3Baseball.com honors.

Watson was the first Wartburg player drafted in a decade — since All-



American catcher Matt Thede '01 played in the Montreal Expos organization from 2001 to 2003.

"To be honest, I didn't think I'd go to the end of the second day or the third day of the draft. I wasn't real surprised that the Cardinals had drafted me. I probably talked to them the most," he said during a phone interview from Jupiter in mid-August.

"They really liked that I threw a lot of strikes and got a lot of ground ball outs. They liked my composure on the field -- that if things weren't going well, I could still do well. I think that's what's made me successful down here, too."

His repertoire includes a four-seam and two-seam fastball, curveball, and changeup.

"One of my strengths is being able to throw a fastball in the zone, inside or outside to hitters," Watson said. "That allows me to get ahead in the count. I think that helps a lot, particularly with my secondary pitches — my curveball and my changeup."

Wartburg Coach Joel Holst said the scouts had Watson on their radar the past two years.

"He never had any arm problems while he was at Wartburg, and that was a positive for many scouts," he said. "A number of scouts became interested in him during his junior year, and a number of organizations showed interest in him through his senior season. We knew they would not take him early in the draft, but it's great to see him achieve his dream of pitching professionally."

Watson has been something of a late bloomer.

At Urbandale High School, his coming-out party as a college prospect came during his senior season. Because prep baseball is a summer sport in Iowa, that was post-graduation. The timing, though, was advantageous for Holst, who keeps an eye out specifically for Des Moines-area players from the larger schools.

"Brad was a good student, a Regent's scholar," Holst said. "He had a decent junior year, but nothing that was getting a lot of Division I interest. He was a low-to mid-80s (miles per hour) guy on the mound and played some shortstop when he was not pitching."

"His athleticism was the big thing that stood out. He played basketball at Urbandale; he was a skinny-looking kid with some height. His last name is also well known in the Des Moines area

because his grandfather coached baseball there for a long time. He did have a great senior baseball season, leading his team to the state 4A championship. I think a number of larger colleges may have felt they missed on him after his senior season."

His decision to attend Wartburg proved to be mutually beneficial.

"I was fortunate to have a coaching staff at Wartburg that believed in me and gave me chances to succeed," he said. "A winning program teaches you a lot, and there's also a tradition of working hard, which is not always the funnest thing at times. You also have teammates who pick you up, which is always a good thing.

"I especially liked working with (then pitching) Coach (Don) Spore for four years. I learned so much. When I came in, I didn't know exactly how to pitch, but I think he helped me a lot, particularly with the mental side of the game and pitch selection. I think I grew 200 percent."

Holst saw a steady improvement — on the field and off.

"Brad became a great leader in our program and matured each year as a pitcher," he said. "His command of all his pitches improved every year. He really cut down on his walks his senior season. He went from being a low to mid-80s (mph) guy to breaking 90 his senior year. It also was great to see his maturity as a student."

After throwing 96 innings in college, the Cardinals used Watson in relief to start the Gulf Coast season before moving him into the starting rotation.

"I don't see a major difference from college to here," he said. "The biggest thing is that you can't make any mistakes while you're pitching. You can't leave any breaking balls over the middle of the plate. In college, sometimes they wouldn't get hit, but now you're playing against guys who were the best on their teams — from the top of the lineup to number nine."

Minor League Baseball comes without the perks of the "Big Show." Watson received a \$1,000 signing bonus and a first-year contract for \$1,000 per month. The team provides breakfast and lunch and has a discounted rate at the hotel where the players stay.

"You don't get paid the big bucks," Watson said. "You have to have a desire and a love for the game. That's what kind of separates people at this level. I'm not just doing it for the money. I'm doing it because I want to be here."



Watson was the 2011 Iowa Conference Pitcher of the Year.

Watson hopes "here" next year will be the Cardinals' Class A team in the Quad Cities.

"I'd like a chance to play at the next level and prove that I deserve to be there," he said. "If I can keep getting better, that's all I can ask for. Hopefully things will fall into place, and eventually I can make it all the way to St. Louis."

Watson, a fitness management major, moved back to Waverly during the off-season. He worked with Spore, who is involved in a baseball and softball sports academy in Cedar

Falls. Watson gave private lessons and assisted at pitching and hitting camps.

Holst believes Watson has the makeup to go a long way in his baseball career.

"Brad was a great role model for our younger players. His leadership was tremendous," he said. "He worked hard to achieve his goal of pitching professionally. His mental make-up was as strong as any player we have had at Wartburg."

“The biggest thing is that you can’t make any mistakes while you’re pitching. You can’t leave any breaking balls over the middle of the plate.”

– Bradley Watson

Women's basketball team builds a winning rapport in Germany

by Saul Shapiro

The games weren't the thing when the Wartburg College women's basketball team took an 11-day journey through Germany in June.

Instead, Coach Bob Amsberry believes the 14 players developed the necessary intangibles to build on a 21-win season.

"The basketball side was the least important part of the whole trip," said Amsberry, whose Knights won three lopsided games against second- and third-tier German club teams.

"We now know and understand each other a little bit better. It was a great bonding experience."

The tour cast a different light on their relationships.

"When you spend 10 or 11 days in hotels without a break from each other, you're forced to get to know each other pretty well," Amsberry said. "Throughout a season you go back to your rooms, your classes and your meals. But on a trip like this you're together all the time and experiencing a different culture."

Meredith Flattery '14, a guard from Fairfield, agreed.

"We spend a lot of time both on and off the court during the school year," she said. "Most of us would consider one another our best friends. However, most of our talks revolve around school and basketball."

"(On the trip) we got to know different sides of each other. It was the first plane ride or trip out of the country for some people. ... You become more family-like and get to share such memorable experiences."

Amsberry took his first Wartburg team on a previously planned trip to Germany in 2006 soon after being hired.

"That trip encouraged me to do it again," he said. "The experience the kids had made me feel like we had to provide this opportunity for others. (Pastor)



Wartburg women's basketball team defeated a German club team, 64-30, in Erfurt (above and next page).

Larry (Trachte) led that one and this one. He makes the trip amazing."

Amsberry, who in his previous stint inherited and turned around a Rockford (Ill.) College program that had lost 70 consecutive games, reaped the rewards of his first full group of recruits at Wartburg last season. The Knights bolted out of the gate with an undefeated November and December en route to a 21-5 campaign.

The senior core — All-Everything guard Samantha Harrington (Nashua), Wartburg's all-time three-point shooter; leading rebounder Katie Zittergruen (Van Horne); and Abbey Hempen (Clarksville), who sat out with a knee injury — have graduated.

Yet the trip reinforced Amsberry's belief that Wartburg will be reloading, not rebuilding.

"Our seniors were leading us really, really well," Amsberry said. "It's a new group of seniors, a new group of leaders. So it was fun to see players like (forward) Leslie Wilson (Hayfield, Minn.)

and (guard) Steph Reiter (Buckingham) really step into the role our seniors had last year and see that come out on the floor.

"I look at my team the way I look at my kids. You want to prepare them for whatever comes their way. From a basketball standpoint, you want to prepare your kids as they become upperclassmen to function without you. I think our seniors right now, if I disappeared, could lead our team."

The games didn't provide much of a challenge. In the German three-tier club system, players in the top division are paid. Wartburg competed against clubs in the bottom two tiers

with players ages 15-40.

"The on-court experience wasn't the main focus of the trip," Reiter said. "The competition wasn't great, but it was a ton of fun."

The players paid their own way

on the trip, which included a stop in Heidelberg; a Rhine cruise; three home-stay days in Eisenach; tours of the Nazi concentration camp at Buchenwald, the BMW museum, and the Point Alpha guard station that separated East and West Germany; plus visits to Munich and Rothenburg.

"The trip to the concentration camps was pretty powerful," Amsberry said. "I think that tugged at their hearts. It made all the stories they hear become real. And anytime you take a group of Wartburg students to the Wartburg Castle, it's a pretty cool deal for them."

Bob Amsberry's record at Wartburg College

Season	Conference	Overall
2006-07	8-8	13-13
2007-08	6-10	13-11
2008-09	10-6	16-11
2009-10	12-4	18-8
2010-11	12-4	21-5

"The home stays (in Eisenach) were awesome," Reiter said. "Everyone's family was so nice and welcoming. I honestly just loved it all. It was so beautiful everywhere we went. I really liked the boat ride on the Rhine River with all the castles and vineyards along it."

Flattery also said the home stays stood out, "getting to see and live the Germany lifestyle firsthand. Their homes, cars, food are so much different."

Amsberry lauded his traveling companions and envisions another successful journey with them during the coming basketball season.

"We look for kids who have great character — good students, good Wartburg fit," he said. "If they aren't those things, it doesn't matter if they're a good player or not. I want athletic kids who are competitive, who want to learn and want to get better."

"We've done a really good job getting top players who aren't scholarship players. We have a good group of kids who have a local base — from schools like Nashua, North Butler and Clarksville — which puts people in our stands. If we complement them with kids from Minnesota and Illinois, we'll continue to be successful."

The goals, he said, are "annually competing for the conference championship and the opportunity to play on a national level."

"We've gotten better every single year. Right now our program is in the best shape it's been in since I've been here as far as quality kids, quality students, and quality players in every single class. If you can have a good recruiting class — not just talent, but the right people every year — you'll be in position to meet those two goals. We're in that position."



Basketball team makes fast break for fast food

You can take the girls out of the country, but you can't take away their fast food.

And, please, remember to pack extra ketchup!

Food was a recurring theme on the blog (<http://wartburgwbb.blogspot.com/>) posted by Wartburg women's basketball players during their German trip.

"[German] food is something we could all agree on as not being our favorite," said Meredith Flattery '14 of Fairfield. "Let's just say we were excited to see a McDonald's around the corner from our hotel in Munich."

Excerpts from the blog:

Day 1 — Heidelberg

We finally were fed a warm meal at the hotel. It was a three-course meal that was beautifully prepared, except for the fact Abi Weidemann ('13, Iowa Falls) didn't have her ketchup. We also thought the ice cream that we were given for dessert was very interesting. What we thought was chocolate ice cream ended up being an unknown substance.

Day 2 — Rhine cruise

Breakfast food may look the same, but does not taste the same. Peanut butter, salami paste, warm whole milk, boiled eggs, and things we have never seen were not some of our favorite foods. However, waffles tasted like some delicious cake! ...

(Later that day) Pork patties aren't necessarily patties and brats don't necessarily have buns ... and no free refills, so learn how to sip!

...

(Dinner) We went to Rudesheim. We were on our own for supper, so many opted to eat more Americanized food. McDonald's tasted very similar and spaghetti and pizza options were delicious. ...

Can we have more ketchup? We really love our ketchup.

Day 3 — Munich

Our dinner reservations were at the famous Hofbrau Haus, which was many people's favorite restaurant. There was a stage where performers danced and many people in the crowd sang and clapped along during dinner. We eventually joined in! The food continues to be a culture shock to say the least. ...

Day 5 — Erfurt

(We) were thrilled to have a nice sub at Subway (with an American menu) or a delicious pizza.

*

Some players adapted better than others.

"Personally, I loved trying all the food," said Stephanie Reiter '12 of Buckingham. "I thought it was super-entertaining not knowing what you were ordering and just waiting for it to arrive and try it. Some was bad, but I liked most of it."

"It's funny," Coach Bob Amsberry said. "I enjoyed the food. I thought it was awesome. If I were 18 or 19, I might not have. You learn to appreciate different things as you get older."

Web Connect

Visit the women's German adventures at
<http://wartburgwbb.blogspot.com/>

Peasley has banner year with Dallas sports

by Saul Shapiro

Mike Peasley '96 had a front-row seat for some of the past year's biggest sports stories: the Dallas Mavericks' NBA title and the Texas Rangers' American League pennants in 2010 and 2011.

Peasley does pre- and post-game shows for the Mavericks, Rangers, and Dallas Cowboys on ESPN Dallas radio, where he also handles weekday Sportcenter updates.

Before moving to Dallas, he spent a decade as one of Iowa's most-honored broadcasters. He was named best play-by-play announcer by the Iowa Associated Press in 2001, by the Iowa Broadcast Association in 2001, 2002, and 2004, and received the Iowa High School Athletic Association's 2007 Media Award.

He and his wife, Kelly, have a 22-month-old daughter, Alison.

Peasley discussed his eventful year and Wartburg education:

Where would you rank the Mavs among Dallas pro sports in terms of local interest?

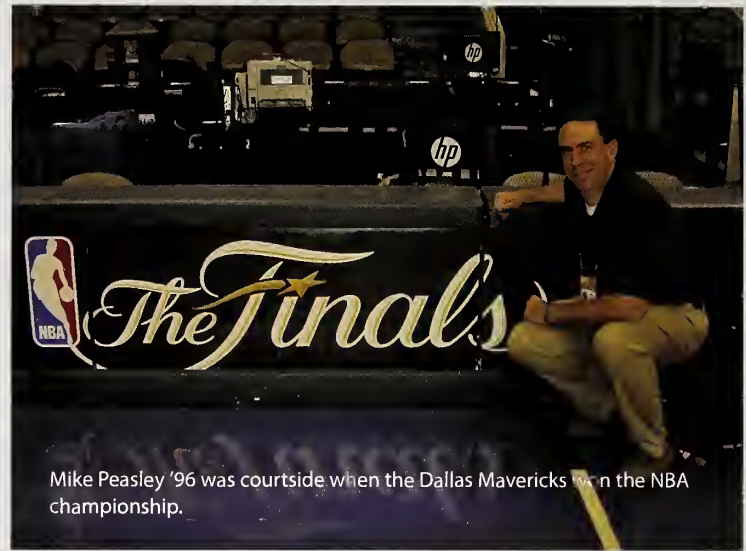
I would rank the Mavericks right below the Cowboys. Dallas has been and always will be a Cowboys' town, but certainly this spring that changed.

What were the expectations for the Mavericks going into the playoffs?

The expectations were not high at all, because the Mavericks had failed to get out of the first round in three of the last four years. In fact, one of our show hosts coined the phrase "One-and-done boys" when describing the Mavericks' chances. I thought they would lose in the Western Conference semifinals to the Lakers. But as soon as they swept L.A., that's when I thought it was certainly possible this team could win the championship.

Did you expect the Mavericks to become "America's Team"?

It was pretty easy to see during the Finals because of the hatred the majority of the country had toward LeBron James and the Miami Heat. The country got to see what a great group of players the Mavericks had. Dirk Nowitzki, Jason Kidd, Jason Terry, Tyson Chandler, and JJ Barea all had great playoff runs. What made this team so much fun to cover is that all of these great players are also great guys. I think the rest of the country saw that, and it made it easy to root for them.



Mike Peasley '96 was courtside when the Dallas Mavericks won the NBA championship.

What was the experience like for you?

It was a fun ride. Stations from all over the country were calling and wanting me to hop on some shows to talk about the Mavericks' playoff run. I was on stations in Phoenix, Salt Lake City, Portland, and many others.

What was your take on two of the storylines: a humble Dirk Nowitzki getting overdue recognition and suddenly silent owner Mark Cuban?

It felt so good for Dirk Nowitzki to hoist the Larry O'Brien (championship) Trophy. He has been a tremendous player for many, many years, (and) they came so painfully close in 2006 when they led Miami 2-0, but lost the next four games. It did seem kind of strange not to hear from Mark Cuban. He remained quiet, and I think that helped the team avoid any distractions.

What was your experience like with the Rangers?

Baseball has never been all that big in Dallas-Fort Worth, but that changed when the Cowboys got off to such a slow start in 2010. All the attention was on the baseball team. It set off a huge celebration when the Rangers made their first World Series appearance (defeating the Yankees). This was a team prior to 2010 that had never won a playoff series. It didn't end the way they wanted to — losing to the Giants in five games — but it brought baseball into the mainstream here (The interview was conducted before the 2011 World Series.)

How did your Wartburg education prepare you for your career?

(Wartburg) is known here because former Rangers' broadcaster (the late) Mark Holtz ('71) graduated from the school. The first time I mentioned I graduated from Wartburg, Rangers' play-by-play man Eric Nadel said, "Hey that's where Mark Holtz graduated, and he always talked so lovingly about the school."

There is no doubt in my mind, I would not be where I am today if it weren't for Grant Price and Wartburg College. I was able to learn so much about both the TV and radio side, and it really prepared me for my career.

Wartburg News and Recognition

Eugene Drape and **Arthur Frick** received the 2011 Wartburg Medals at the Sept. 6 Opening Convocation. Drape, a Bremer County native, and his wife, Ruth Weidler '58, who died in 2000, were active supporters of the college. Gene has



served on the Keep on Learning and Artist Series committees, on the Business National Advisory Board, and has been a leadership donor to the music program in honor of Ruth. Frick chaired the Wartburg art department from 1976-94 and created the sculpture "Aspiration" near the entrance to the Vogel Library. He was chief designer of the Wartburg Mace used in college processions.



Samantha Banser '13 (shown with her mother Pamela) of Janesville was named a Newman Civic Fellow by Campus Compact in April. Banser is founder and co-president of Brighter Tomorrows, a nonprofit effort that provides housing, support, and mentoring for youth who have aged out of the foster-care system. She was one of 135 students from 30 states selected as a Newman Civic Fellow, which recognizes college students finding solutions for challenges facing communities.

Wartburg College received a three-year, \$45,000 grant to increase rural Northeast Iowa volunteer participation from The Iowa Commission on Volunteer Services. Wartburg will use the grant to match community needs with resources in Bremer, Butler, Chickasaw, Fayette, and Floyd counties. Wartburg will work with the Waverly-Shell Rock United Way.

"Lessons Learned: The Iowa Disasters of 2008," an hour-long documentary produced by Wartburg Television in partnership with the Rebuild Iowa Office, premiered June 1 at the State Historical Society Building in Des Moines.

Dr. Fred Waldstein '74, Wartburg College professor of political science, was among five finalists for the Thomas Ehrlich Civically Engaged Faculty Award bestowed by Campus Compact, a coalition of 1,100 college and university presidents promoting "the civic purposes of higher education." Waldstein oversees Wartburg's Leadership Certificate Program, which offers a minor in leadership education. He has been the driving force behind Wartburg's Community Builders and High School Leadership Institute programs.



Shelby Sieren '13, biology major from Keota, was awarded a \$6,000 scholarship by the Phi Eta Sigma First-Year National Honor Society. Sieren was one of 35 recipients of Phi Eta Sigma's top award for undergraduates and the first from Wartburg to be so honored. The scholarship criteria include academic record, potential for success, and chapter activities.



Megan Herickhoff '12, a communication arts major from Belgrade, Minn., was second runner-up in the Miss International contest in Chicago in July. Herickhoff, Miss Midwest International, competed against 42 contestants from the U.S., Canada, Britain, and India. Herickhoff, who is afflicted with narcolepsy, a sleeping disorder, used the platform, "The Life and Times of a Real Sleeping Beauty — The Awareness of Narcolepsy."

Wartburg College was named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the fifth consecutive year by the Corporation for National and Community Service, which recognizes volunteering, service-learning, and civic engagement.

KNIGHTS IN THE NEWS

1950

Dr. **GEORGE ROLEDER**, Upland, Calif., wrote a book of humorous bird stories, *Flights of Bird Fancy*, published in July by Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing Kindle Store.

1952

Dr. **Herbert Hidebrandt**, professor emeritus in the School of Business at the University of Michigan, and his former undergraduate student, now Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, were featured on annarbor.com in regard to a research paper they co-authored, "The Pollyanna Hypothesis and Communication in the Annual Report," which was published in the January 1981 *Journal of Business Communication*.

1955

HILDA FEDELER, Waverly, celebrated her 100th birthday on Sept. 7.

1963

The Rev. **CARL JECH**, San Francisco, Calif., examines religion as a creative art form in his new book, *Spiritual Nonbeliever: Religion as Creative Art Form: Reclaiming Spirituality When You Don't Believe The Way You Did Before: Singing a Mystical Song of Life Transcending Death!* The book is available through PubishAmerica.net.

LEON OLTSMANN, Parlin, Colo., retired July 1. His career included 16 years in private business, 20 years in education, with 12 years as a high school principal, and six years as a human services administrator.

1965

MARLYS LUBBERT GRETE, Muscatine, retired May 6 after 22½ years as librarian for Stanley Consultants.

1966

Dr. **William Hamm** wrote *Astronomer, Teacher, Lawyer ... Person of Faith: Faith-Based Colleges Aim to Serve the Whole Person* in the 2012 edition of *College Access and Opportunity Guide* published by the Center for Student Opportunity and distributed to high schools and students nationwide.

1969

JERRY HEYING, Marshalltown, retired after 42 years of teaching, including 16 years in Beloit, Wis., and 26 years in Marshalltown.

1971

LOIS SCHRAGE CUSHNIE, Redding, Calif., retired from Shasta College, where she spent nine years as counselor of intercollegiate athletics and the last five years as counselor coordinator. Her career also included teaching special education, English, and drug education in an adolescent psychiatric hospital as well as traditional public schools and alternative schools.

JANET BARTH DENNEY, Plano, Texas, retired in 2010 after 20 years as a senior analyst with American Airlines. She volunteers on staff and administratively with Faith Hospice, Dallas, and as a member of the Family Self-Sufficiency Committee, a sub-committee of the Plano Housing Authority.

LORA HOWELL TALBOT, Belmond, is a non-alumni representative on the Iowa State University Alumni Association Board of Directors. She also serves as an ISU Foundation governor and on the national campaign committee and veterinary medicine collegiate committee for Campaign Iowa State. She is a member of the Belmond Community Hospital Foundation board of directors.

1973

SHARON LUMLEY HELLMAN, Bloomington, Ill., retired in August 2010 after 35 years as a medical technologist at four hospitals in Iowa and the Student Health Service at Illinois State University. She is completing a second bachelor's degree in agribusiness-horticulture at Illinois State.

1974

SUSAN KINK MONCADA, Mount Pleasant, S.C., completed her M.B.A. degree in healthcare management through Western Governors University.

Dr. **ROSITA SCHUMACHER TENDALL**, Davenport, completed her Ph.D. degree in 2009. She is an assistant professor of music

education and teaches elementary music education courses at Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill.

1975

MARY DAILEY, Centennial, Colo., received a 2011 Henry Award for outstanding musical direction of a Town Hall Arts Center production of *Chicago*. She retired June 10 as assistant principal at Arapahoe High School/Littleton Public Schools. She teaches private voice lessons and provides musical direction for theatre productions.

The Rev. Dr. **STEVE ULLESTAD** and **RUTH SCHULDt ULLESTAD**, Cedar Falls, received a personal invitation to the White House surrounding the May visit of German Chancellor Angela Merkel. They attended a morning reception that featured speeches by President Barack Obama and Merkel and a state dinner in the Rose Garden that included a performance by singer James Taylor. Steve is bishop of the ELCA's Northeastern Iowa Synod and a member of the Wartburg College Board of Regents.

1977

ROBERT BENNETT, Denver, Colo., has independently published his first novel, *Love.com*, a romantic suspense story about a shady Internet dating service. It is available in paperback and electronic editions from Amazon. Bennett began writing seriously in 2007, following a long career in business as a sales and marketing executive, financial systems consultant, restaurateur, day trader, and Certified Public Accountant.

STEVEN FERGUSON, Cedar Falls, retired after 31 years with the Department of Juvenile Court Services. He spent the majority of his career in Grundy County and added Black Hawk County to his duties five years ago. He is a former president of the Iowa Juvenile Court Services Association, received the 2010 Iowa Judicial Branch Juvenile Court Services Employee Meritorious Service Award and the 2011 Black Hawk County Bar Association Meritorious Service Award.

1978

CHRISTINE ZONNEVELD, Wayzata, Minn., is an executive producer

of *Ghost from the Machine*, an independent film now available on DVD, Netflix, and Video on Demand. Learn more at www.ghostfromthemachine.com.

1979

BARBARA THORSON SHULTZ, Fort Dodge, is director of the Fort Dodge Public Library.

1980

TERRY CLARK, Chicago, Ill., is the author of a short story published in the spring 2011 edition of *New Scriptor: A Forum for Illinois Educators* (Vol. XII; N. Clayton Duba, Editor).

1984

Dr. **JEFFREY BANWART** and Audrey Klepper, Bloomington, Minn., were married March 19.

1986

DAN HOFFMAN, Spring, Texas, was named market claim manager for the Allstate Insurance centralized medical claims office, Birmingham, Ala. The office handles automobile first party injury claims for 32 states across the country.

ANDREA JANSSEN SEVERSON, Shoreview, Minn., completed her M.B.A. degree from Walden University in April, with a specialization in entrepreneurship.

DATO' AZMIL "ZEB" ZABIDI, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, was appointed in July as Ambassador of Malaysia to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. He underwent administrative procedures that culminated with a letter of credentials from the King of Malaysia.

1987

The Rev. Dr. **DAVID BIGLEY**, Mt. Carmel, Ill., is pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church and Adams Corner United Methodist Church.

BRET WORTMAN, Chantilly, Va., recently returned to Technology Management Associates, Inc., as a senior developer. He is lead developer on several key government programs for the company, which focuses on U.S. intelligence and law enforcement systems.

KNIGHTS IN THE NEWS

1988

ART SATHOFF, Packwood, is superintendent of schools for the Fairfield Consolidated School District, Fairfield. He finished the Licensed Ministry program of the Christian Church of the Upper Midwest in 2009 and provides pulpit fill for area churches.

JAYE WALSTEAD and Ed Grattan, Dallas, Texas, were married July 2.

1989

VICTOR COLE, Jackson Heights, N.Y., is academic internship coordinator at Metropolitan State University's Center for Community-Based Learning, St. Paul, Minn.

1990

MARK ADKINS, Northfield, Vt., is sports information director at Norwich University.

Matthew and **CHERIE TORGERSON EWALD**, Lakeville, Minn., announce the birth of Mara, June 15, 2010. She joins Kolton, 3. Cherie is a part-time paralegal.

TROY MULLEN, Urbandale, is an associate product manager-recreational vehicles with Nationwide Insurance, Des Moines.

1991

Dr. Joel and **JULIE HERRON CARR**, Williamsburg, announce the birth of Ethan Douglas, Feb. 5. He joins Abby, 3½.

HEATHER BURROWS FREEMAN, Pahrump, Nev., was honored as 2010-11 Teacher of the Year at Mt. Charleston Elementary, Nye County, where she has taught first grade since 1994 and coordinates the school garden.

AMY LEONHART LOCKHART, Denver, Iowa, was a finalist for 2012 Iowa Teacher of the Year. She teaches at Northern University School at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls.

1992

DEANN GEITZ GEISTLER, Norwalk, is a global investment operations leader at Principal Global Investors, Des Moines. She is president of the Professional Association for Investment Communications Resources (PAICR), a nonprofit membership organization for investment marketing and communications.

1993

JIM GEISTLER, Norwalk, is a laboratory computer coordinator with Mercy Hospital Medical Center, Des Moines.

Dr. **DANIEL MAHRAUN**, St. Paul, Minn., is in his second season as a member of The Rose Ensemble, a professional vocal group based in St. Paul. He also serves as a section leader in the Minnesota Chorale and maintains an active private voice studio in the suburban Twin Cities.

STACY NORTHROP and John McAtee, Cedar Rapids, were married June 11.

JOEL STRAWN, Truro, is senior system engineer with Capital Technology Group, Urbandale.

1994

MICHAEL BECHTEL, Onalaska, Wis., received the Top Notch Teacher award from Channel 8 News in December 2010.

LAUREN DYBOWSKI GRADY, Lake Geneva, Wis., works on the account development team at Hewlett-Packard.

Brent and **JENNIFER KOCH LIESCH**, Shiocton, Wis., announce the birth of Emery Robert, April 30. He joins Emmett, 3½.

KEVIN PARSONS and Crystal Rex, Newton, were married March 5.



Sworn in at the Wartburg Castle

Rex Davidson '12 began his year as Wartburg College student body president in a memorable ceremony at the Great Hall of the Wartburg Castle. On tour with the Wartburg Choir last May, Davidson was sworn in by President Darrel Colson and outgoing student body president Trevor Carolan '11, also a choir member. The investiture followed the choir's performance in the Great Hall.

KNIGHTS IN THE NEWS

Dr. **STEVE** and **BETH ONSRUD PERRY**, DePere, Wis., announce the birth of Alexander Paul, Nov. 22, 2010. He joins Katherine, 6, and Samantha, 2.

NICOLE SIMON MAITLAND and David Guldager, Parkersburg, were married April 2.

1995

MELISSA SWEENEY BECHTEL, Onalaska, Wis., is an accounting manager with Gunderson Lutheran Hospitals.

SONYA CRABTREE-NELSON, Chicago, Ill., received her Ph.D. in social work from Loyola University in 2010. She is an assistant professor in the Master of Social Work program at DePaul University.

1996

The Rev. **JAY GRAVE**, Windom, Minn., is senior pastor at American Lutheran Church.

Robert and Dr. **SARAH HAUSSMANN PREVELIGE**, Milford, Mass., announce the birth of Leah Rose, July 19. She joins Grace, 9, Anna, 7, and Sean, 4.

TINA STREIF, Farley, received her Master of Science in Education degree in counseling in May from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville.

1997

Dr. **JOY TRACHTE BECKER**, Waverly, is an associate professor of mathematics at Wartburg College.

Laurie GERSTENKORN, Denver, Colo., is vice president, finance and operations at St. Charles Capital.

TIM STOCKMAN and Lauri Jackson, Ormand Beach, Fla., were married June 10.

1998

James and **JILL BIWER BERAN**, Lime Springs, announce the birth of Jesse Clay, July 19. He joins James, 8½, Joy, 6½, Jaylyn, 4½, Jedidiah, 2.

AMY FLEMING ELWOOD, Mason City, was named news content coordinator at KIMT-TV News 3. She will continue to anchor KIMT's 4 and 5 p.m. newscasts and "Covering Your Health" at 10 p.m.

Patrick and **NATALIE SCHARDT JOHNSTON**, North Liberty, announce the birth of Lukas, Oct. 17, 2010. He joins Kaitlynn, 8, and Payton, 6. Natalie is a pediatric physical therapist with Children's Center for Therapy, Iowa City.

DAWN LEYH OLMSTEAD and Dr. **MATTHEW OLMSTEAD '99**, Plover, Wis., announce the birth of Alexander James, Dec. 3, 2010. He joins Elizabeth, 3.

JARED and **HEATHER NAIL '00 SCHMIDT**, Ankeny, announce the birth of Gavin Joseph, Dec. 23, 2010. He joins Jada, 6, and Tatem, 3.

Mark and **TOBI REINERT WHITE**, Lincoln, Neb., announce the birth of Seth Connor, July 7.

1999

Nick and **CARRIE KIMBALL ARNOLD**, Mt. Pleasant, announce the birth of Natalie Kay, March 19.

MIKE BURGGRAAF and **SARAH ZINN-BURGGRAAF '00**, Clive, announce the birth of Jacob Zinn Burggraaf, Dec. 10. He joins Zach, 6, and Drew, 3.

JAIME SPRATT DAVIS, Austin, Texas, was promoted to training coordinator for the facilities services department at the University of Texas at Austin. She has worked at the university for 10 years.

Dr. **ANDREW** and Amber **GREEN**, Pella, announce the birth of Reese Aydin, June 15.

William and **JESSICA DALEY TAYLOR**, Denver, Colo., announce the birth of Evan Oscar, March 8. He joins Liam, 3.

ANNA TESDAHL, Denver, Colo., announces the birth of Ryley Eugene, May 3. He joins Tanner, 4.

Robert and **JENNIFER McCANN WHITNEY**, Waverly, announce the birth of Caden Anker, Nov. 10, 2010. He joins Patricia, 14, and Brianna, 11.

2000

ERIK and Kelly **BOOK**, Miami, Fla., announce the birth of Bailey Elizabeth, Oct. 30, 2010. Erik is an assistant athletic director at the University of Miami.

MATTHEW and **ANGELA PETERS BUTTJER**, Aplington, announce the birth of James Matthew, June 1. He joins Hannah, 6, and Ella, 3.

Ryan and **CAREY KUNZMANN ERTZ**, Omaha, Neb., announce the birth of Jaxon Lee, March 30. He joins Cael, 3.

Curt and **COLLEEN BEARBOWER FANGMAN**, Walker, announce the birth of Gracy Lane, Aug. 10. She joins Gavin, 5, and Garrett, 3.

BRIAN and Amanda **GRAFFT**, Tiffin, announce the birth of Lily Grace, Feb. 3.

James and **STEPHANIE LADLIE MYERS**, Liberty, Mo., announce the birth of Lucille Diane, June 20. She joins Carmen, 6.

2001

DANIEL and **JANE KING BOCK**, Lakewood, Colo., announce the birth of Sophie Marie, Jan. 21. She joins Owen, 3.

The Rev. **ALISON BOOMERSHINE**, Annandale, Minn., is an associate pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church.

Doug and **ALLISON SCHULTZ FRAZELL**, Waverly, announce the birth of Abigail Grace, Oct. 10, 2010. She joins Noah, 5, Luke, 4, and Elizabeth, 2.

Dr. **BOLDEN HARRIS** and Emily Robinson, Round Rock, Texas, were married Aug. 6. Bo will adopt Emily's son, Dominique Desean Wilkins, 9.

AARON and **MEGAN RODGERS HORMAN**, Lowden, announce the birth of Cadence Elizabeth, June 11. She joins Carter, 4.

Lance and **SHELLIE LIENHARD KAMAUS**, Lisbon, announce the birth of Kinsley Jo Linae, May 14. She joins Cohen, 6½, and Carew, 3½.

JENITHA ABELA KAMELI, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, received her Master of Arts degree in ethnomusicology from Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. She is an assistant lecturer in the fine arts and performing arts department at the University of Dar es Salaam.

JEANA LARSON, Humboldt, teaches 5-8 instrumental music in the Sheldon Community School District, Sheldon.

Adam and **ANDREA ROHNE McNEELY**, Lyle, Minn., announce the birth of Emmett, May 22. He joins Asher, 2.

2002

COBY CARSTENS and Meegan Donnelly, Coralville, were married May 7.

SHAUN McMORRIS and Brooke Kayser, Waterloo, were married March 25.

2003

Jake and **STEPH RASMUSSEN ANDERSON**, Austin, Texas, announce the birth of Abigail, Feb. 22. She joins Luke, 2½.

ZACHARY ARMSTRONG and **AMELIA WEBER ARMSTRONG '04**, Platteville, Wis., announce the birth of Gabriel James, July 6, 2010. Zack is an audit manager with Eide Bailly, LLP, Dubuque. Amelia teaches vocal music at Platteville High School.

Michael and **MELISSA CARLSON BEER**, Woodbury, Minn., announce the birth of Charles Thomas, May 13.

James and **ABBIE COOPER BREWER**, North Liberty, announce the birth of Alexander Wayne, July 14.

JESSICA BRYANT COLEMAN, Maple Grove, Minn., received her Master of Business Administration degree in September 2010 from Hamline University, St. Paul.

DANIELLE DYVING, Denver, Colo., received her Master of Social Work degree in May from Colorado State University.

BETHANY FRANZMAN and Scott Sigmund, Marion, were married April 30. Bethany is an insurance benefits coordinator for CarePro Health Services, Cedar Rapids.

Matt and **JACKIE MEIER GALLUS**, Winsted, Minn., announce the birth of twin sons, Cephas James and Eli Matthew, April 1. They join Malaika, 5, and Tabitha, 3.



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Hilda Fedeler reaches century mark

by Michael L. Sherer '63

Hilda Fedeler '55 became one of Wartburg's most senior alumna on Sept. 7, her 100th birthday.

Although she is a member of the Class of 1955, her association with Wartburg College began much earlier.

With a solid faith instilled by German immigrant parents, Fedeler decided early in life to train for service to the church. In 1930, she completed a two-year teaching certificate from Wartburg Normal College in Waverly and began her career as a parochial school teacher.

Fedeler remembers taking classes in Old Main and tells of studying under Dr. A.W. Swensen, longtime Wartburg chemistry professor.

"My lab partner and I did an experiment as a class assignment. It turned out perfectly. But Dr. Swensen thought we'd fiddled with the results to make ourselves look good. He watched as we did it again, with identical results."

Her teaching career took her all over the Midwest — to Tripoli, Iowa; Altenberg, Mo.; Toledo, Ohio; Blue Island, Ill.; and finally Waverly and Cedar Falls, Iowa. Along the way, she earned a bachelor's degree in history from Wartburg in 1955 and a master's degree from the University of Iowa the following year.

"When I was teaching in Toledo," she remembers, laughing, "one of my students tried to convert me to Mormonism." It quickly became clear to the youngster that there was no way that was going to happen.

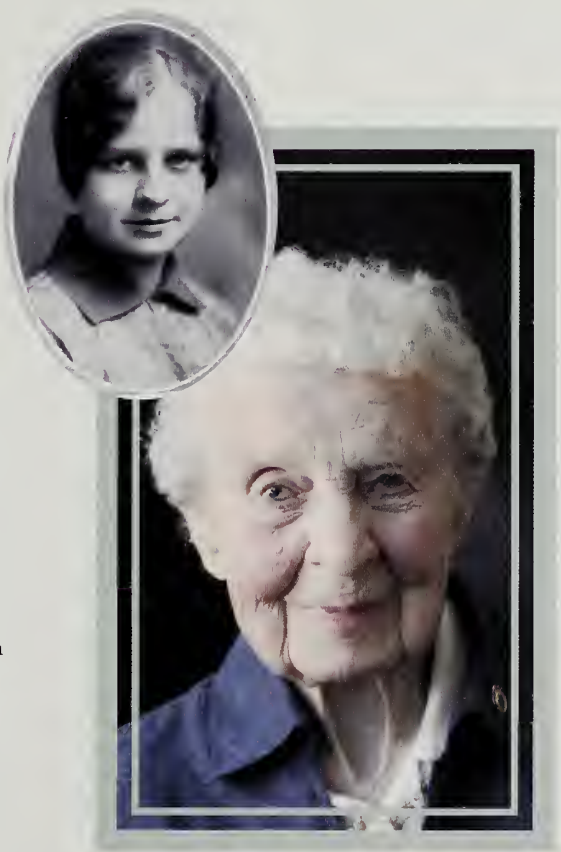
"I came back to Waverly to help care for my aging parents," she says. That brought her back to teaching at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Waverly, where she had first enrolled at the age

of 5, when three teachers taught eight grades between them. She taught at St. Paul's for three years and then took a job in the Cedar Falls School District, teaching junior high social studies and English for 17 years before her retirement in 1976.

Once a piano teacher — in some years she had 40 students — Hilda still plays, sometimes to accompany worship at Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community (although she considers herself too able-bodied to actually live there). She's also served as an organist for worship at St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School.

"The pipe organ is the epitome of all musical instruments," she declares emphatically.

Hilda, the second of seven children, has outlived five of her siblings. Born in rural Colton, S. D., she moved to Waverly when her father bought the farm where she now lives.



"People tell me I should move off this place and go to the Bartels Home," she says, smiling mischievously. "But what would I do there all day? I need to stay active. I like to rake, mow my lawn, clean my house. I want to stay in my house as long as I possibly can."

What keeps a 100-year-young person feeling spry?

"I keep active," Hilda says. "I do my chores. I also go to the Fareway grocery store and push a cart up and down the aisles, for exercise. I think I'm going to wear out their floors. And I use the therapy pool at the Waverly Health Center three days a week."

Along with an active lifestyle, Hilda credits a strong faith in God for her longevity.

"I believe in the power of prayer. 'Thy will be done.' When God calls me, I pray I'll be ready to accept that."

Hilda celebrated her birthday with some reluctance.

"My family wanted to have a 90th birthday party for me. I said, 'No, that's not necessary.'"

They tried again when she was 95. She told them the same thing. For her 100th, they wouldn't take "no" for an answer. On Sept. 4, three days before the actual date, they hosted a party in her honor.

With her zest for life, even at the century mark, Hilda Fedeler may well have been the youngest person in the room.

Sherer is a Lutheran pastor and journalist. He and his wife, Kathe Mensing Sherer '66, moved to Waverly after his retirement as editor of Metro Lutheran, a newspaper serving Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.

KNIGHTS IN THE NEWS



Psychology major becomes executive producer

As a Wartburg psychology major and law school graduate, Christine Zonneveld '78 probably never envisioned adding "executive film producer" to her professional resume. Now, the Wayzata, Minn., alumna is listed on the credits of *Ghost from the Machine*, an independent film produced in Minneapolis.

Zonneveld's introduction to film production came through a close friend, Jennifer Kramer. Kramer produced the movie and convinced Zonneveld and three others to sign on as executive producers.

"We were able to make this film on a shoestring budget," said Zonneveld, who recently completed a term on the Wartburg College Alumni Board. "We called it 'the little movie that could.' The combination of a great story, a talented first-time director who also wrote the screenplay and edited the film, and dedicated crew and actors, made for a unique film and a great experience for all involved."

The movie's original title was *Phasma Ex Machina*. It played to critical acclaim at a number of international film festivals and had a one-week July theatre debut under its new title at the St. Anthony Main Theatre in Minneapolis. Since then, Universal Studios purchased remake rights.

"We won't be involved in the Universal production," Zonneveld noted. "They are having their own writer tweak the script and will hire their own director if they decide to remake it. We will just be part of the cheering section. We believe if there is a remake, people will want to see the original as well."

Ghost from the Machine is the story of a young man who is raising his younger brother after the death of their parents. He plunges himself into the murky science of the supernatural and invents a machine intended to bring back his parents from the other side.

Critics have described the film as "reminiscent of the *Sixth Sense*," "the best filmmaking debut I've seen in quite some time" and "a chilling ghost story that lingers around the fringes of your nerves."

Zonneveld said the film will be available on Netflix and can be downloaded on iTunes. To view the trailer, learn more, or purchase a copy of the film, go to www.ghostfromthemachine.com.

ADAM and **GRETA REIN '05 NIELSON**, Waverly, announce the birth of Ian Henry, May 27. He joins Emma, 4.

LARA GEIGER-SIMPSON PISCHEKE, Oakdale, Minn., received her Master of Business Administration degree in May from Hamline University.

HEATH and **Elayna ROPP**, Ames, announce the birth of Clair Marie, Dec. 30. She joins a brother, Will.

MATT and Dr. **MELISSA BOEVERS SIMON**, Prairie du Chien, Wis., announce the birth of Oskar Reid, June 23. He joins Naomi, 5, and Anastasia, 2½.

Justin and **VALERIE TIEDT WARNKE**, Sumner, announce the birth of Dillon Joseph, May 27. He joins Shane, 2.

2004
Daniel and **ALICIA BECK ADAMS**, Denver, Iowa, announce the birth of Dustin Richard, May 23.

TRAVIS ANDERSON, Aurora, Colo., received a master's degree in public administration in December 2010 from the University of Colorado, Denver.

KRISTIN HAASE JUCHEMS and **NAT JUCHEMS '06**, Blaine, Minn., announce the birth of Gabriel Richard, June 14.

JARED and **KELLY WATKINS PIRKL**, Waverly, announce the birth of Benjamin Michael, March 30. He joins Carter, 2.

2005
Jared and **LAURA THORNTON CARSON**, Torrance, Calif., announce the birth of Andrew David, May 28.

JAMIE and **HEIDI FLICKINGER KELLEY**, Algona, announce the birth of Micah Dean, May 22, 2010. They work in the Algona Community School District, where Jamie is director of choral activities and Heidi is a K-3 Title I reading and kindergarten at-risk teacher.

TYLER and **LISA JEBSEN KETELSEN**, Mason City, announce the birth of Ivy Noelle, July 12. She joins Cooper, 2.

JASON LAMPE and Emma Rowland, Omaha, Neb., were married June 25.

Dr. **ALAN WIEDENMAN** and Aimee Wilson, Brooklyn, were married June 4.

ERIN WOLF and Matthew Burkholder, Chambersburg, Pa., were married March 26.

2006
KEVIN and **ANDREA SCHILTZ '07 AULT**, Waverly, announce the birth of Henry James, March 30. Kevin is a loan officer with Farmers Savings Bank, Frederika. Andrea is a provider relations specialist with the Waverly Health Center.

RILEY and **MELINDA YODER BOCHMANN**, Cedar Rapids, announce the birth of Hannah Michelle, June 11.

CORY CONNELL, Oskaloosa, was 2010 Iowa Coaches and Officials Association District and State Coach of the Year in wrestling. He is a high school physical education teacher and wrestling coach with the Eddyville-Blakesburg Community Schools, Eddyville.

IVAN and **ELSA MAY '07 DVOJAKOVSKI**, Rockdale, New South Wales, Australia, announce the birth of Mary, April 18.

ALEX FELDT and Clarissa Betts, Norman, Okla., were married July 23.

KIMBERLY MACKEY GRAVEN and **CORY GRAVEN '07**, Boone, announce the birth of Maverick James, June 24.

DAVID HILL, Urbandale, earned a Master of Education degree from Graceland University, Lamoni. He is a fifth-grade accelerated learning teacher with the Fairfax County Public Schools, Alexandria, Va.

Dr. **KYLE HILSABECK**, Mount Vernon, is a 2011 graduate of the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy and received his Iowa Pharmacy License in July. He is a community practice pharmacy resident at Shepley Pharmacy. He was ordained in 2008 as a Kahuna (official clergy) of HunaWisdom.

KNIGHTS IN THE NEWS

REED and **ELIZABETH SUMMITT HOSKINS**, Onalaska, Wis., announce the birth of Haylee Suzanne, July 26. Reed is an assistant football coach at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.

Greg and **KAY HANSEN KAUFFMAN**, Reinbeck, announce the birth of Ryan William, Aug. 5. He joins Rachael, 8, Tom, 7, and Justin, 1.

2007
KATELYN HEMINGSON ENGH, Ames, is a fulfillment supervisor at the Iowa State University Book Store.

MEGAN FIKE and Glen Hilton, Chicago, Ill., were married June 11.

ANDREW and Lynston **HUMMER**, Cedar Rapids, announce the birth of Truett Mitchell, May 26. He joins Paxton, 6, and Sawyer, 4.

JESSICA KUGLER and Tyler Rosenberg, Peoria, Ill., were married July 29.

KATIEJO KUHENS, Waverly, is sports information director at Wartburg College.

Dr. **SARAH PETERSON** and Dan Sliwinski, Burlington, were married July 9. Sarah graduated in May from the Illinois College of Optometry, Chicago, Ill. She is an optometrist at the office of Dr. Larry Taylor.

KIRSTEN WEINSCHENK and Troy Usé, Thibodaux, La., were married May 28.

JASON WELSTEAD, Auburn, Ala., was one of seven former soccer players and/or current coaches participating in a mission trip to Buloba, Uganda. They helped build rain catch systems for residents and played soccer with the young people. Jason is pursuing a doctorate in aerospace engineering at Auburn University and coaches junior varsity boys' soccer at Auburn High School.

JASON ZASTROW and **JENNIFER BREITBACH '08**, Cedar Falls, were married May 21 in the Wartburg Chapel.

2008
KURT BAKULA, Waterloo, is a personal banker with U.S. Bank.

WHITNEY FREE BAKULA, Waterloo, is a creative assistant with Mudd Advertising, Cedar Falls.

JARED BARNES, Mason City, is the 5-12 band director in the Newman Catholic Schools. His Newman High School Concert Band was selected as the Class 1A Honor Band for the 84th Annual Iowa Bandmasters Association Conference.

LEIGH CHRISTENSEN and **JOSHUA FAABORG '09**, Cedar Rapids, were married May 28.

MATTHEW HARDY and Katie Dakken, Perry, were married June 18.

BRIAN and **LINDSEY BEGEMANN MULLENBACH**, Cedar Rapids, announce the birth of Carson Harold, Feb. 14.

Mike and **KARLEEN DAMLO SHERMAN**, Northfield, Minn., announce the birth of Junia Gayle, May 15.

JAMIE SHUBATT and Matthew Steen, Norfolk, Neb., were married April 30 in the Wartburg Chapel. Jamie is an adviser/recruiter for Northeast Community College.

BRITTANY SUITER and Kevin Randall, Chicago, Ill., were married April 30.

MICHAEL WUBBEN and **ASHLEY SCHROEDER '10**, Waterloo, were married July 9.

2009
TRAVIS BOCKENSTEDT, Cedar Rapids, has joined the Wartburg communication arts department as Wartburg Television adviser. He will continue to work as a part-time producer at Metro Studios in Cedar Rapids, where he manages creation of online video content, television commercials, and corporate videos, and in event promotions and

marketing for the World's Toughest Rodeo, which produces high-profile rodeo events throughout the country.

DREW FAYRAM and **LINDSAY SHEPARD '10**, North Liberty, were married June 18. Drew is a graduate student in the department of microbiology at the University of Iowa. Lindsay is a nurse at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

SPENCER HERZBERG and **HOLLEE SILVEY '10**, Mt. Pleasant, were married April 16.

EMILY IZEN and Calvin Labes, Fairmont, Minn., were married May 21.

SARAH JOHNSON, Avondale, Ariz., teaches second grade at Verrado Elementary School, Buckeye, Ariz.

JODI KEMPEL and Steve Moretz, Cedar Rapids, were married July 9.

JAKE KUENNEN, Denver, Iowa, earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Drake University, Des Moines.

JODI KEMPEL MORETZ, Cedar Rapids, received her Master of Science degree in statistics in July from the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

NATHAN PALMER and Tara Palmer, Kamrar, were married June 24.

JOEL RASMUSSEN and **NIKKI NEWBROUGH '10**, Waverly, were married June 15.

AARON SCHUTTE and **ALLISON BATES**, Bukoba, Tanzania, were married June 17. They teach at Kibeta English Primary School.

GUTHRIE STOTSER and Cortney Wedel, Fayetteville, N.C., were married April 2.

JILL WIEBKE, Tulsa, Okla., completed a master's degree in mathematics at the University of Tulsa, where she is now pursuing a Ph.D. degree in computer science.

JORDAN WILDERMUTH and **ALISHA HOFFMANN**, Highland, Ill., were married June 25.

AMANDA WILLS and Matthew Carpenter, St. Paul, Minn., were married June 11.

2010
STEVE CHAMBERLIN and **KORI KLEINSCHMIDT '11**, Madison, Wis., were married June 25.

JON and **MALLORY STOCKS COFFMAN**, Burlington, announce the birth of Scarlett Rose, June 6.

JUSTIN ERICKSON and **MOLLY WERNLI '11**, Minneapolis, Minn., were married June 18.

ABBY HANSON and Shane Mathis, Ft. Collins, Colo., were married May 29.

TRAVIS KRUGER and **LARISA GREVE**, Ann Arbor, Mich., were married July 10.

WILLIAM SCHMITT and **ERIKA YOUNGBERG**, Des Moines, were married June 11.

SARAH STEARNS and Erik Harvey, Des Moines, were married June 25.

JARED TUCKER and **LEANNE MEYERS '11**, Clarksville, were married June 11. Jared teaches elementary physical education in the Waverly-Shell Rock School District, Waverly. Leanne is a preschool teacher in the Hampton-Dumont School District, Hampton.

CAITLIN UHLENHOPP, Marion, is a 9000 series OFP quality engineer with John Deere Waterloo Works, Waterloo.



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Wartburg alumni nominated for regional Emmy awards

by Hannah Cox '13

Three Wartburg alumni who reunited at a small, nonprofit local television station in Oskaloosa were nominated for 2011 Upper Midwest Regional Emmys.

Jacob Rosdail '05, AJ Hodgeman '06, and Jonathon Gregg '07 work at Communication Research Institute, a partnership with William Penn University, airing news from Oskaloosa and Mahaska County as well as documentaries and a travel show.

The trio traveled very different roads to Oskaloosa. Hodgeman, who grew up in nearby New Sharon, previously worked for Wells Fargo Financial in Colorado. He recruited his Wartburg roommate Rosdail, who had been at Mudd Advertising in Cedar Falls, and Gregg, a former KCRG reporter.

Hodgeman said he's been happy to "use my Wartburg degree back around my hometown." Rosdail is pursuing a Master of Fine Arts degree and envisions a career in academia. "Working with the students at Penn is one way I can get experience for a similar role down the road." Gregg relishes having time to "cover real news, not just house fires and car accidents ... I get to report on news that truly affects our viewers."

Gregg, who had claimed a 2010 Upper Midwest Emmy in Community/Cable/Public Access, was nominated for Best Evening Newscast in a small market for the half-hour *CRI Weekly News*. (For the record, other victorious Wartburg alumni in 2010 were KCRG-Cedar Rapids photojournalist Matt Nelson '03, two in sports photography, and Paul Yeager '98, host of IPTV's Iowa Public Journal, Public/Current/Community Affairs Program.)

Rosdail was nominated in the 2011 Documentary-Historical category for *Searching for Buxton*, a documentary narrated by Wartburg distinguished professor and artist-in-residence Simon Estes, whose father was a coal miner.

"Buxton was a small town near Oskaloosa that in the early 1900s was a booming coal town with black and white workers," Rosdail said. "The town has long since disappeared from the map, but its story of racial integration and prosperity is still one that resonates today."

In Arts/Entertainment-Programs/Special Series, Hodgeman was nominated for his travel show, *One Day Getaway: Winterset*.

"It takes you to and from a place within a day's drive of Oskaloosa and highlights all the fun, neat things you can do there," Hodgeman said.

Although the CRI trio didn't win, Wartburg was well represented again on the victory stand in September in Minneapolis.

Nelson won a Sports Photography Emmy; Iowa Public Television's Dan Wardell '98 (see story p. 10) took the honors for best Children's Program (12 and under); the Best Daytime Newscast (markets 21-140) went to KWWL-Waterloo with reporter Nikki Newbrough '10 and former assignment editor Jason Mortvedt '03; and photojournalist Randy Schumacher was part of four winning entries from WHO-Des Moines.

Hanna Cox is a communication arts major from Epworth.

STEVE VIRELLI and **STACY McCULLEY**, Ankeny, were married July 2.

2011

ALEC AMOSSON, Dubuque, is pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at the University of Dubuque Seminary.

MEGAN BAKER, LeGrand, teaches second and third grade special education at Garton Elementary, Des Moines.

TREVOR BAXTER and **SARAH SHOEMAKER**, Mondamin, were married July 9.

AMBER BENNETT, Waukegan, Ill., is pursuing a master's degree in clinical counseling psychology at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, Chicago.

AMANDA WALTER BORCHERS, Ames, teaches high school science in the Perry Community School District, Perry.

NICHOLAS BROWN and **ELIZABETH DePENNING**, Garner, were married July 2.

RENATA BRYSON, Amana, is an executive team leader with the Target Corp., West Des Moines.

ALYSON BUDZINE, Independence, teaches elementary special education in the Starmont Community School District, Arlington.

DAVID CARLSON, Lindstrom, Minn., teaches mathematics at East Ridge High School, Woodbury, Minn.

STEPHANIE CARROLL, Mason City, teaches high school mathematics and physical education at Des Moines East High School, Des Moines.

KORI CHAMBERLIN, Madison, Wis., is a line therapist with the Wisconsin Early Autism Project.

SARAH CHASE teaches language arts/speech and coaches speech at East Marshall High School, LeGrand.

DEVIN CLAASSEN, Parkersburg, teaches at Meredith Middle School, Des Moines.

LUANN COPPER, Ionia, is a clinical laboratory science student at the Mayo School of Health Sciences, Rochester, Minn.

RACHEL DOUVIKAS, Hanover, Ill., is a youth care worker with Hillcrest Family Services, Dubuque, Iowa.

KENTON ENGELS, Cedar Falls, is a high school teacher in the Boone Community School District, Boone.

MOLLY GREENE and Brian Bishop, Ames, were married June 26, 2010.

ALLISON GROVES, Buckley, Wash., is pursuing a master's degree in English at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls.

SHELLEY HARTMAN, Cedar Falls, is patron service and marketing coordinator with the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra.

JACEY HEUER, Dumont, is a financial representative with Northwestern Mutual Financial Network, Waterloo.

KELLIE HILDRETH, Sac City, is a middle school teacher in the East Sac County Community School District.

CHONDRAAH HOLMES, Waterloo, is a medical student at Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn.

STEPHANIE HOVICK, Appleton, Wis., is pursuing a graduate degree in occupational therapy at Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Mich.

KRISTIN HUINKER, Garner, is a development manager with Youth Emergency Services and Shelter, Des Moines.

ALLISON HUTH, North Branch, Minn., is a regional membership manager with the Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois, Cedar Rapids.

EMILY JOHNSON, Springfield, Minn., is a case manager with ElderHealth Northwest, Seattle, Wash.

KNIGHTS IN THE NEWS

CHELSEA JOSEPHSON, Onalaska, Wis., is a music therapy intern at New Avenues to Independence, Cleveland, Ohio.

REID KELLER, Audubon, teaches 7-12 vocal music in the Manson Northwest Webster School District, Manson.

AMANDA KIMZEY, West Des Moines, is a management trainee with Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Des Moines.

CASSANDRA KLOSTERMANN, Dubuque, is pursuing a Master of Public Health degree at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

RACHEL KUDOBE, Mt. Pleasant, teaches middle school English in the Clarksville Community School District, Clarksville.

SARAH KUIL, Ankeny, is a graduate student in social work at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

ELLEN KURT, Dyersville, is a producer with KWWL Television, Waterloo.

NILAN LANSING, West Union, is a personal trainer and yoga instructor with the Black Hawk County YMCA, Waterloo.

NICOLE LEQUIA, Temecula, Calif., is a Young Adults in Global Mission volunteer in the United Kingdom with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

MARGOT MARSHALL, Waverly, is a children, youth, and family ministry assistant at St. John's Lutheran Church, Cedar Falls.

NOLAN McCARTHY and **MEGAN BAKER**, Des Moines, were married June 11.

KYLE McKENNA, Ames, is a graduate student in mechanical engineering at Iowa State University.

AMBER McMAHON, West Des Moines, is teaching in Des Moines Public Schools.

MISSY McMURRAY, Minneapolis, Minn., is a law student at the University of St. Thomas School of Law.

JAKE MOHLING, Fredericksburg, teaches middle/high school science in the Humboldt Community School District, Humboldt.

ARIANN MORSCH teaches high school English in the Ottumwa Community School District, Ottumwa.

ANGIE MULLENBACH is a hall director at St. Ambrose University, Davenport.

KATE NIEMI, Chicago, Ill., is a graduate student in social work at Loyola University.

ERRYN WARNKE O'CONNER, Bondurant, is a talented and gifted coordinator in the West Marshall School District, State Center.

MORGAN O'CONNOR, Ft. Dodge, is a trail crew member with the Conservation Corps, Ely, Minn.

JENNA OLBERDING, Dyersville, is an account executive with IKON, Clive.

KAILEE PARMAN, Cedar Rapids, is in retail leadership sales with Verizon Wireless.

ERIC PETERS, Bartlett, Ill., is a graphic design intern with Red Frog Events, Chicago.

NATHAN PICKERING, Marion, is an accountant with Rockwell Collins, Cedar Rapids.

RYAN PUTZ, Edgewood, is a staff accountant with Gardiner Thomsen PCAs, Charles City.

NATHAN RAMTHUN, Nevada, teaches secondary mathematics at Woodward Academy, Woodward.

AMANDA RECTOR, Cedar Falls, is a graduate student in Spanish at Arizona State University, Tempe, Ariz.

KARA REWERTS, Ackley, is a music therapy intern at the Iowa Veterans Home, Marshalltown.

JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ, Clinton, is enrolled in graduate school and working as a graduate assistant in admissions at Ashford University.

CASEY ROSER, Coralville, is a family/community support provider-social worker with Horizons, A Family Service Alliance, Iowa City.

EMILIE RUEHS, Plainfield, is a resident assistant with ChildServe, Des Moines.

BETHANY SCHAUFENBUEL, St. Lucas, is a middle school teacher in the Waterloo Community School District, Waterloo.

JACIE SMITH, Waverly, teaches kindergarten in the Sumner-Fredericksburg Schools, Sumner.

STEPHANIE SPIES-UPTON, Huntsville, Texas, is pursuing a master's degree in clinical psychology at Sam Houston State University.

KYLE STEINFELDT, Denver, Iowa, is a product/marketing manager with Do-It Molds and Clear Creek Fly.

DREW STONEWALL, Cedar Falls, teaches middle school mathematics in the West Central Valley Community School District, Redfield.

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ASHLEY STOUT, Ainsworth, teaches seventh grade science in the Mason City Community School District, Mason City.

JON STOVER, Humboldt, is an assistant/intern cross country and track and field coach at Wartburg College.

AUDREY STURTZ, Boone, teaches middle school and high school science in the Manson Northwest Webster School District, Manson.

BETHANY VON AHSEN, Homestead, is an inside sales representative with Norfolk Iron and Metal, Durant.

KAREN WASSON, Waverly, is a lead youth specialist with Lutheran Services in Iowa, Waverly, and a treatment plan coordinator with Heal the Family, Inc., Waterloo.

BRADLEY WATSON, Urbandale, was drafted in the 37th round by the St. Louis Cardinals.

ADAM WEBER, Waterloo, is a commodity merchandiser with Archer Daniels Midland.

KATIE WEISERT and Jeff Tiedt, Waverly, were married July 30.

DANA WHITTEN, Overland Park, Kan., is a graduate student in healthcare administration at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

ALEX WIEBKE, Waverly, is a programmer with CUNA Mutual Group.

NATHAN WILEY, Marion, is in technical services with Epic Systems, Verona, Wis.

KELSEY WILSON, Loveland, Colo., is a missionary with Adventures in Missions, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

LEANE YODER, Sigourney, teaches eighth grade mathematics at Mid-Prairie Middle School, Kalona.

HANNAH ZIMBECK, Hiawatha, is a technical support specialist with IBM, Dubuque.

Alumna writes biography of 'enigma in Wright House'

Roberta Volkmann '58, a Springfield, Ill., freelance writer, has written *Susan Lawrence: The Enigma in the Wright House* published by Bookstand Publishing.

The biography concerns a complex woman who commissioned Frank Lloyd Wright to "remodel" her deceased father's Springfield home in 1902. The Roman brick mansion now called the Dana-Thomas House is a state historical site, considered one of Wright's finest prairie designs, and has been visited by thousands.

Susan Lawrence assumed several names and played many roles as she entertained lavishly, traveled the world, championed the rights of women and African Americans, and led seekers of spiritual truths.

"Volumes have been written about Frank Lloyd Wright and the house," Volkmann said, "but no one has written Susan Lawrence's story. I built on the research of many other individuals and attempted to separate the myths from the facts."

The book is available at the Sumac Shop in the Dana-Thomas House carriage house in Springfield (www.sumacshop.com).

In Memoriam

1938

LOUISE HUSER BERGMAN, Des Moines, died May 12 at Kavanagh House Hospice. She was a teacher for 23 years at Hubbell Elementary in Des Moines. After retirement, she was active as a guide at Hoyt Sherman Place, tutored children at Des Moines elementary schools, made school bags for overseas relief projects, took in people of need and was active at her church. She was preceded in death by her husband, Cletus Bergman '39.

1943

ILAH ANDERSON WEIBLEN, formerly of Dubuque, died May 5 in Ann Arbor, Mich., of Alzheimer's disease. She was a former employee of Wartburg Theological Seminary, where her late husband, Dr. William Weiblen '40, served as a professor and as president. She received the seminary's Loehe Award in 1989 in recognition of her tireless work in efforts to secure Namibia's independence from South Africa and her service to seminary students and programs. She was active in Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Dubuque.

1947

ARNOLD H. WITTROCK, Portland, Ore., died May 22. He earned a master's degree at Oregon State University and was a longtime elementary school teacher in the North Clackamas School District.

1948

IRMGARD KNOCK BECKER, Charles City, died May 29 at the Floyd County Medical Center. She worked at the Lutheran Children's Home in Waverly, served as parish worker in Ohio, and for 23 years was office manager for the family business, Becker Home Improvement. She was active in her church, served as an auxiliary volunteer at the hospital, and was involved with the Charles City Women's Club. She received the Hospice Volunteer of the Year Award in 1995 in recognition of her volunteer service with Heart to Home Hospice.

The Rev. **LUDOLPH R. LECHNER**, Guttenberg, died May 19 at Guttenberg Municipal Hospital. He was a graduate of Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and spent 60 years in parish ministry following his ordination in 1951. In his free time, he enjoyed fishing, hunting, gardening, and traveling.

1948

BETTY KROLL STAPLETON, Lombard Ill., died Aug. 9. She was a former organist at Grace Lutheran Church, Villa Park, Ill.

CLARENCE R. WEGENAST, Grand Island, Neb., died March 9 at Wedgewood Care Center. In 1947, he served as a volunteer in Papua, New Guinea, helping repair Lutheran Mission stations damaged during Japanese occupation of the island in World War II. Following his return, he earned a degree in industrial arts education from Colorado College. He and his wife served 16 years as overseas missionaries with the Lutheran Society. He then worked as an activity director at the Central Dakota Nursing Home, Jamestown, N.D., taught with the Bismarck Job Corps, served as property manager at the Good Samaritan Retirement Center, Hastings, Neb., and was nursing home administrator in Alliance and Sibley, Neb. He served as president of the Alliance Rotary Club, president of Lutheran Brotherhood branches, and was a member of the Grand Island Gideon Camp. In retirement, he was a handyman for elderly, drove the bus for his church's preschool, and was actively involved with the Gideon Bible Society and Habitat for Humanity. In 1996, he spent a month helping rebuild hurricane-damaged roofs at St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.

1949

RAYMOND J. IHNEN, Northwood, died May 15 in the Hospice Unit of the Lutheran Retirement Home. After service in World War II, he earned a master's degree in business from Mankato State University. He was a teacher and coach in Manilla, Burt, and Sutherland and spent 24 years in the Northwood School District, retiring in 1987. He coached summer youth baseball and T-ball, served as president of the First Lutheran Church Council, and was treasurer for Meals on Wheels in Northwood.

1950

JOHN L. SAUKE, Story City, died June 2 at Bethany Manor. A U.S. Navy veteran, he worked as an automotive machinist in Albert Lea, Minn., and Ames. He was an ERD machinist at Iowa State University, Ames, from 1969 until his retirement in 1988. He was active in Bethesda Lutheran Church, where he sang in the choir and was involved with the food pantry, and was a member of the Barbershop Chorus and Heartland Song Birds.

1951

EUGENE (GENE) BOEDECKER, Minnetrista, Minn., died May 23. A graduate engineer of Iowa State

University and a former U.S. Navy pilot, he founded Boedecker Company, representing engineered products, in 1964, and Xchanger, Inc., manufacturer of industrial heat exchangers, in 1972.

1953

NANCIE BAUMANN STEINHAEUER, Madison, Wis., died Dec. 16 of cancer. She devoted her life to caring for her family and was active as a Cub Scout leader, United Way block captain, concessions manager for the West Madison Little League, Nakoma Junior Golf chairman, and volunteer for the Tea Room at Oakwood, a hospital gift shop, and numerous other organizations.

1954

HARRY M. BORCHERDING, Bloomfield Hills, Mich., died June 8.

1955

The Rev. **ROBERT J. ADIX**, Rowlett, Texas, died June 8. A graduate of Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, he was ordained by his father and spent 39 years as a pastor and pastor/developer at churches in Texas and Oregon. He completed a Master of Theology degree at Luther Theological Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., in 1975. After his retirement in 1998, he remained active through volunteer work with Habitat for Humanity, the Briarwood Retreat Center, and his church. He was inducted into the Wartburg Athletic Hall of Fame in 2002 in recognition of his collegiate achievements in basketball and track.

1957

The Rev. Dr. **ROBERT W. MATTHEIS**, Lodi, Calif., died July 23 of bone cancer. He was bishop of the Sierra Pacific Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America from 1994 until his retirement in 2002 and received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Wartburg College in 1994. He studied at the American Summer Institute in St. Andrews, Scotland, in 1987. A graduate of Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., he was ordained in 1961 and served congregations in Nebraska and California. He was a member of the Church Council of the former American Lutheran Church and the Sierra Pacific Synod Council. He was a former president of the Lodi Kiwanis Club and the Lodi Ministerial Association.

JERRY SCHULZ, Mobridge S.D., died Aug. 17 at Mobridge Regional Hospital. He worked as a custom harvester in Montana for two years and subsequently worked at Gambles, Culligan, Davidson Chevrolet, Jensen Chevrolet, and Valley Motors. He was a member of the Moose Lodge and Trinity Lutheran Church.

1960

WILLIAM (BUD) SCHOBBER, Melbourne, Fla., died July 12, 2010, at the Floyd County Medical Center in Charles City, where he was under hospice care for desmoplastic mesothelioma.

He was a medical corpsman in the U.S. Navy before enrolling at Wartburg and went on to earn a physical therapy degree from Hermans School of Medicine. He worked at Younkers Rehab Center in Des Moines and was a nursing home administrator and executive with Americana Nursing Homes before founding Special Medical Services in 1966. The company provided physical therapy services to hospitals in northern Iowa and later added respiratory and cardiopulmonary services and equipment rentals. He sold the business in 1997 and moved to Melbourne, Fla., where he and his wife operated Sun Trees Physical Therapy and Massage Clinic until 2007. He then worked full-time for two years with Health First, Inc., at Palm Bay Outpatient Rehab. He served four times as president of the YMCA Foundation Board and was a member of Kiwanis and the Elks Lodge.

1961

ROGER W. HILDEBRANDT, Ridgedale, Mo., died July 12 of pancreatic/liver cancer. He taught and coached wrestling and football in Traer and Elkader, was an insurance salesman for Lutheran Mutual in Waverly, an industrial engineer for Donaldson's in Chillicothe, Mo., and worked at Collins Radio in Cedar Rapids and Lennox Industries in Marshalltown. In 1978 he became owner and manager of Hildee's Diner in Marshalltown. He later moved to Mitchellville and worked at Diamond Crystal. He was an active Lutheran church member, serving on church boards and as a Sunday School superintendent. He volunteered with the Marion and Marshalltown Planning and Zoning Commissions, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and held leadership roles with the Jaycees. He was a master gardener and worked at Big Cedar Lodge after retiring to Ridgedale.

1968

LAVERN G. DEVRIES, Allison, died July 27 at Iowa Methodist Medical Center, Des Moines, from complications of injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident. He taught in the Titonka school system for 10 years and the Allison-Bristow school system for 25 years. He also spent 32 years as a crop adjuster for Farmers Mutual Hail Insurance Co. He retired from teaching in 2004 but continued to work for Farmers Mutual Hail until his death. He served several terms as trustee at his church and was a fantail pigeon breeder and model railroader.

1970

ELEANOR DOVE BRINTNALL, Waverly, died May 20 at Allen Hospital, Waterloo. She received her teaching certificate from Iowa State Teachers College (now University of Northern Iowa) in 1942. She taught for the next 10 years at schools in Finchford, Strawberry Point, Charles City, and Independence, prior to her marriage. After earning her bachelor's degree in education from Wartburg, she taught kindergarten and first grade in the Janesville Schools until her retirement in 1981. She was active in her church.

1979

DENNIS M. JOCHIMSEN, Cedar Rapids, died June 15. He was a Certified Public Accountant and worked at various accounting offices in the Cedar Rapids area.

1992

JASON M. DAHL, Castle Rock, Colo., died July 4 at Porter Hospice Care Center, Littleton, Colo. He moved to Colorado in 1995 and began work for MetLife. Most recently he was employed as a 401(k) internal wholesaler with Great West Retirement Services.

Former Faculty

Dr. **AXEL "AX" BUNDGAARD**, Burnsville, Minn., died April 14 at the age of 93. During 13 seasons as Wartburg head men's basketball coach, Bundgaard led the Knights to their first Iowa Conference championship in 1950-51 and subsequent league titles in 1954-55, 1958-59, and 1959-60. He coached three of Wartburg's top 10 career leaders in rebounding and six of the program's 1,000-point club members. Twelve of his players received either all-Iowa Conference or All-American honors, and he guided seven teams to National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics postseason tournament play. During his years at Wartburg, he also served as athletic director and head of the physical education department. He was inducted into the Wartburg Athletic Hall of Fame in 2000. Bundgaard left Waverly in 1961 to become the athletic director at South Dakota State University, then joined the athletics and physical education department at St. Olaf College in 1965. He retired in 1986 as professor emeritus of physical education and dance. He was a 1939 graduate of Midland Lutheran College and taught and coached at several Nebraska high schools until he enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1942. After service in the Pacific during World War II, he earned a master's degree at the University of Michigan. He completed a Ph.D. degree at the University of Iowa in 1958.

Former Staff

ADELHEID BAUHS, Waverly, died Aug. 23 at the Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community. She worked in the Wartburg College Library from 1968 until her retirement in 1990. She began making birthday cakes for Wartburg students during her years at the library and continued the tradition into her retirement.

The Regents Challenge: Record \$250,000 offered to match new contributions to aid college

by Hannah Cox

The Wartburg College Board of Regents is challenging alumni, parents, and friends of the college to give more this year by issuing a \$250,000 Regents Challenge.

The board's aggregate gifts of \$250,000 mark the highest single matching-gift challenge in Wartburg history. Regents are challenging donors to increase total annual contributions by at least that amount to encourage those already giving to give more and those who are not giving to start.

"It provides alumni, friends, and parents a real opportunity to dramatically leverage the impact of their giving. The financial needs are real and growing," said Ray McCaskey, Board of Regents chair.

Director of Development Don Meyer said if an individual gave \$100 in Tower Society gifts during the last fiscal year and \$200 this fiscal year, the \$100 increase will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the Regents Challenge.

He added that for those who did not make a gift last year, a new gift will be matched by the challenge.

Meyer believes the latest challenge also will have a positive impact on the Annual Fund.

"We believe this challenge will help us surpass last year's all-time giving record of \$1,163,000 in gift designations to the Annual Fund," he said.

McCaskey said, "I am extremely proud that the Board of Regents has made this personal leadership commitment. It creates the opportunity for all of us to make a difference in the future of Wartburg College."

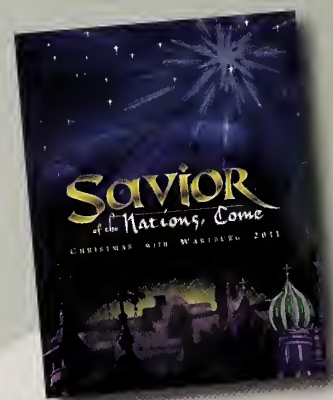
Gifts can be made online at www.wartburg.edu/give, by calling 866 219-9115 and using a credit card or by sending a check to the Development Office, Wartburg College, 100 Wartburg Blvd., P.O. Box 1003, Waverly, IA 50677-0903.

May 15-31, 2012

Tour Tanzania with alumni and friends

Join Dr. Les Huth '58, professor emeritus of education, on the Wartburg alumni tour of Tanzania. Visit cities and remote villages, go on a safari, and meet people making a difference.

For more information, visit
www.wartburg.edu/alumni/programs.html



Christmas with Wartburg College

Iowa Public Television

Wednesday, Dec. 21, 8 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 23, 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 25, 3 p.m.

Broadcast made possible by a generous donation from the Sukup Family Foundation and Eugene and Mary Sukup of Sheffield.

Artist Series

The Afro-Latin Project
Jan. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Kansas City Chorale
Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m.

Reduced Shakespeare Company:
Complete World of Sports (abridged)
March 20, 7:30 p.m.

All shows in Neumann Auditorium

Wartburg Community Symphony

American Christmas
Dec. 11, 3 p.m.

A Slice of Vienna
Feb. 18, 7:30 p.m.

Both concerts in Neumann Auditorium


Homecoming 2012

Oct. 18-21

Save the date • Save the date



The Regents Challenge: \$250,000!



The Wartburg College Board of Regents will match all new and increased Tower Society gifts up to \$250,000 during the 2011-12 academic year.

Those gifts include contributions to the Annual Fund, student scholarships, academic programs, and co-curricular activities.

Take up the Regents Challenge. Help transform tomorrow at Wartburg College.

Ray McCaskey '65
Board of Regents Chair

Regents
2011-12 CHALLENGE
Leading the Way



100 Wartburg Blvd.
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Eight Wartburg students and alumni were evacuated in mid-June from the Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in southern Colorado as a wildfire nearly surrounded it. Jessica Schenk '11 took this photo and commented, "The wildfire became part of the story of the ministry and community that is Rainbow Trail. It was a chance to learn just how important community is and, how when you have that community, you can make it through anything. Out of potential disaster, hope was born and a stronger community was formed. It brought home the fact that material things are not what's important, but what's really important is the people. It taught me about the power of prayer, the power of community, and the importance of hope."